WORLD SOCCER

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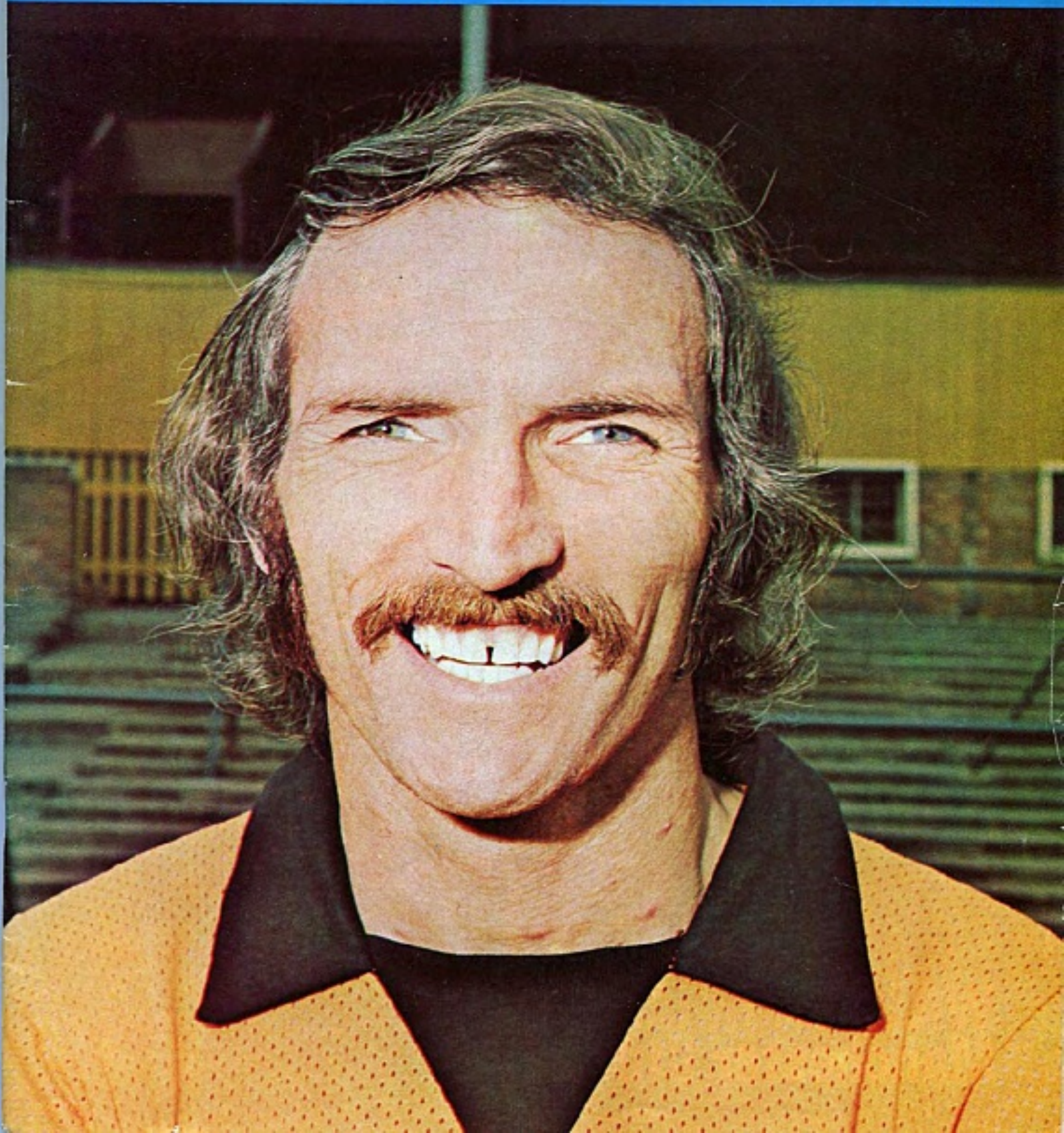

World SOCCER
WILLIE MORGAN
Manchester Utd

79 TEMPLE CHAMBERS - LONDON EC4
Telephone: 01-353 5688
Telex 28435
Editor PHILIP RISING
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Skill, but...

THE drab, goal-less encounter fought out between Italy and West Germany at the tail-end of last month may yet prove to be an illustration of what we can expect during the World Cup finals. Both these national sides, brimming full of individual skill and collective ability, will be among the forerunners for the ultimate prize but if they could not produce a match to stir the blood . . . who will?

West Germany, who seem to have gone off the boil a little in recent months, went to Italy after losing in a bitter battle against Spain. Gerd Muller—who still represents his country's best chance of World Cup success—missed a penalty but sustained numerous bruises from the Spanish defenders; still feeling frustrated, perhaps, after their Cup exit by Yugoslavia.

Italy, with their tremendous defensive record, may prove to be a better bet than the Germans. Not only will the remarkable Dino Zoff have to be beaten but if Italy are to lose the opposition will also have to contend with the intricate skills of Sandro Mazzola and Gianni Rivera.

Hopes for a feast of fine, entertaining football in the finals are none too bright at this stage. There are skilful teams — West Germany, Italy, Yugoslavia and Brazil especially—but to what extent the likes of Netzer, Rivera, Dzajic and Jairzinho will be allowed to demonstrate their undoubted ability remains to be seen.

One result that will have caused surprise round the soccer globe, including Spain, was the 0-5 home defeat by Real Madrid against a Johan Cruyff inspired Barcelona. Although they have achieved little of great significance outside their own borders in recent years, Real still have a wonderful reputation. It is sad to see them in their current plight and it would be a good thing for the game as a whole if this great club were to regain its exalted place among the elite of world football.

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FRONT COVER PICTURE

Derek Dougan, enjoying such a grand season with Wolverhampton Wanderers, capped an illustrious career with a Football League Cup Winners' medal at Wembley this month. Dougan helped Wolverhampton to a 2-1 victory over Manchester City. Dougan is also Chairman of the Professional Footballers' Association.

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HOST COUNT HAS PROBLE

PLAYING at home and with superstars like Beckenbauer, Muller, Vogts and Netzer the West Germans are favourites to win the World Cup. They have problems, however, many of their own making and aggravated by the change in basic approach made by team manager Helmut Schoen. Yet, despite their problems it would be a real surprise if West Germany failed to head Group One.

To go with them into the second stage I take East Germany who, with Poland, have taken over the leadership of the game in Eastern Europe, ousting the traditional leaders Hungary and the Soviet Union. Just what has gone wrong with the game in these two countries is fascinating but the rapid development of Poland and East Germany emphasis that hard work, organisation and above all encouraging good young players is still the basis of successful soccer in any country.

Two of the key men in the East German team last autumn were very experienced and two more were probably over the top. But on balance they have a young side with at least one more World Cup to come for the backbone of the team before it needs to be rebuilt.

The two who could be over the top are Henning Franzel, a centre forward turned midfield scheme and centre forward Peter Ducke. Frenzel, however, is only a stand-in, deputising for the 40 times capped Hans-Jurgen Kreische who is still in his mid-twenties. Kreische was put out of action in the critical qualifying match at home to Rumania. Operated on almost immediately, he is probably fully recuperated now and playing his way back to peak form.

Frenzel came in for the last vital game away to Albania as well as morale boosting victories over Hungary and Russia but though he will step down for Kreische, his experience and adaptability make him a useful man to have around in the 22 man squad.

Ducke comes into a different category. His 60 caps are an all time record for East Germany and at 32, assuming he looks after himself, he can still be an asset. Team manager Georg Buschner would probably find him a difficult man to replace for he has struck up a fine understanding with the key scorer, 23-year-old Joachim Streich. Duke's headers; his flicks in the goalmouth and, just as vital, his runs to pull defenders out, all play a vital part in Streich's success.

Striker

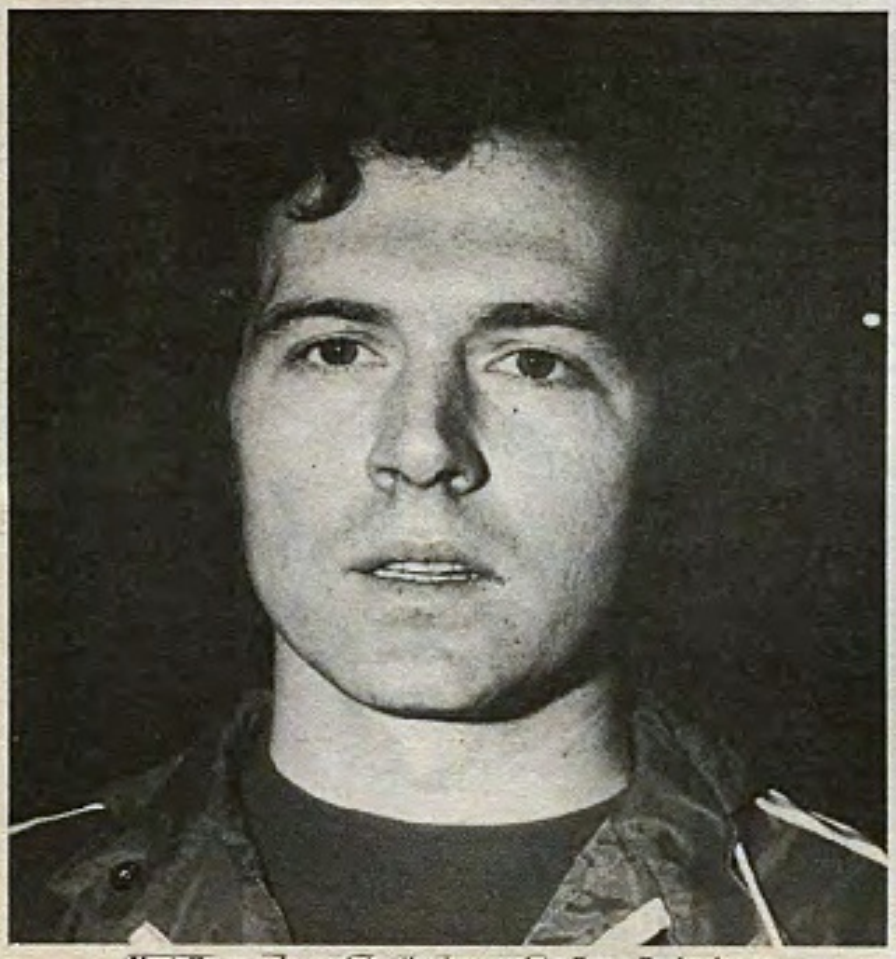
Finally, of course, Ducke is still playing well for his club FC Carl Zeiss Jena who are top of the East German First Division. After the World Cup Ducke will almost certainly cede his place to Jurgen Sparwasser, seven years his junior and already an experienced striker. But for the moment Sparwasser's role is that of an attacking midfield player, though he has frequently been capped up front.

Ducke looks like staying for the big test while Frenzel will step down but the other two players nearing the veteran stage — apart from Kreische who is the big star — are *libero* Bernd Bransch and Wolfram Lowe. Bransch is 29 with 49 caps at the end of last year while Lowe is a year younger and can play on either wing.

With a youthful defence around him apart from stopper Klaus Sammer, Bransch plays the solid, orthodox libero game, giving nothing away. Particularly good in the air he goes forward for set pieces when the DDR need goals but significantly it was not until his 46th game at international level before he scored. The game was the vital one at home to Rumania which was won 2-0 and Bransch got both goals.

Together with Frenzel, Wolfram Lowe (who gets a few goals himself) has played a vital part in helping East Germany's top league scorer Hans-Bert Matoul of Lokomotive Leipzig to get his goals. Matoul has still not been capped, presumably too much of a hammer and not enough subtlety to suit Herr Buschner but Lowe's contribution has been to create chances by laying in good balls and carrying the ball inside . . . from either wing.

The East German game is based on solid defence with two reliable goalkeepers in Croy (first choice) and Blochwitz (four years older). Given a firm



West Germany's captain, the immaculate Franz Beckenbauer.

NTRY LEMS

GROUP ONE
West Germany
East Germany
Australia Chile
Review by Eric Batty

WM 74

•Underlining it all is the struggle in Schoen's mind between two marriages...•

base at the back, the emphasis in midfield is going forward to support the front three.

With Sparwasser and Kreische in midfield, the East Germans' attack is almost a throw back to the old W formation for both these players are at their best going forward.

Cautious

For the key games against Chile and West Germany I expect Buschner to vary his game. They must beat Chile and therefore it is reasonable to assume that he will rely on his W attack—Lowe, Sparwasser, Ducke, Kreische, Streich.

But against West Germany, prestige and necessity will call for a holding game and though I don't expect him to go completely defensive he will be more cautious, probably reverting to 1-3-4-2. To achieve this Sparwasser will drop back from the right wing, and an extra midfield player with defensive qualities will come in perhaps to tight mark Netzer or Overath. The front two will either be Ducke and Streich or perhaps Lowe and Streich, enabling Ducke to take a day off.

Vital games

Having an adaptable squad with adequate reserves is vital for a competition like the World Cup. At Ducke's age, three vital games in seven or eight days could take the edge of him and this is why I feel Ducke may be left out or maybe given a run against Chile and then taken off to rest after he has achieved his target and put the DDR into a winning position.

West Germany, of course, are better known. Apart from the men who have often made the headlines are very good players like Breitner and Hoeness who on particularly good days even outshine Beckenbauer and Muller. However, Herr Schoen has a basic problem to resolve before the series: who is to be the lynch pin of the attack. There are two basic choices — Netzer and Overath.

Put another way its organisation, skill, flair and an understanding with Muller (provided by Netzer) or the skilful but more foreful Overath who plays the long passing game developed for flying wingers and tank type centre forwards. Muller, no matter who some people may think is no tank and in my opinion he needs Netzer.

Underlining it all is the struggle in Schoen's mind between two marriages. In 1972 he produced a superb blend based an Bayern Munchen and Borussia Monchengladbach. In 1973 he tried unsuccessfully to marry Bayern with 1st FC Koln who play the vigourous, more open game not unlike the English.

No matter which way Schoen goes, West Germany *must* reach stage two but if he wants the supreme honour — the pot itself — then I have no doubt that he must recall Netzer and strike a balance between Bayern and Borussia.

No chance

I have deliberately omitted Chile and Australia because I am convinced they have no chance. Indeed I would go so far as to say that Australia could not possibly win even one game in Europe against anyone except maybe Luxembourg, Norway or Finland. Even these teams could make them struggle.

Australia's Yugoslav manager Rasic went on record after qualifying, saying: "We have the English hardness." I wouldn't argue with him but I'm sure they have little else to go with it except perhaps a good spirit amongst the players and the willingness to have a go.

What they have was good enough to eliminate Asian teams who to my knowledge still play soccer based on skill but the *Socceroos* as they call themselves will find that what they regard as English hardness will turn out to be kindergarten stuff when it comes to the real thing. They would like to play England at Wembley, as part of their warm-up but I would warn against it. England would run up double figures and ruin the only asset the Australians have — belief in themselves.

They are going to be disillusioned but they shouldn't do it before the World Cup. That will be lesson enough.

Chile come in a different category to the Australians. Being South Americans, and having eliminated Peru, and seen their champions Colo Colo take Independiente to a third match in the South American club championship, we can assume they have talent and have re-organised their thinking so that they do not neglect defence as Peru did in 1970. Above all they lack experience in Europe which will be of paramount importance come June.

They have other problems, too, not the least being the fact that the backbone of their team are now playing with foreign clubs, Elias Figueroa, their stopper is in Brazil; Carlos Reinoso the key midfield general plays in Mexico, and these two must be obtained if Chile are to have any chance.

I have serious doubts about their goalkeepers too — none of whom have been exposed to Europe, save in the 0-0 draw against Russia in Moscow. Knowing the Russian's plight I wouldn't read too much into that. Goalkeepers are especially vulnerable in Europe where they have to be good at the high cross. So few South American goalkeepers excel in this respect and I don't think many of them enjoy it!

Reputation

Since qualifying two key forwards, Caszely and Ahumada, have been exported. Caclos Caszely went to Spain with a big reputation but his club Levante are, as I write, sitting firmly on the bottom of Division II. Above all the Chile FA is desperately short of money, which is why they will not come to Europe very long before the World Cup starts. They will prepare in the Far East where they will pull crowds and get cash. The Russians are being forced to help — FIFA ordering that compensation be paid for not appearing in Santiago.

But even that will not cover the Chile FA's debts and unless they are paid the clubs holding Figueroa, Reinoso, Caszely etc will not release them except perhaps at the last moment, but maybe not at all.

That, of course, is no way to prepare for a World Cup. For me this group is a walkover for the two German teams —West Germany, East Germany, Chile and Australia in that order and I wouldn't be at all surprised if the Aussies fail to score even one goal in their three games.

ZEISS JENA ARE AHEAD

WITH five points from three games since the re-start of the East German season, FC Carl Zeiss Jena lead Magdeburg by three points; Dynamo Dresden by four.

Army team FC Vorwarts held Jena to 0-0 in Frankfurt but a week later, at home to Sachsenring Zwickau, who were the early pace-makers in the league, Jena rammed in five goals.

In this game the two World Cup goalkeepers faced each other; Jurgen Croy (Zwickau) the man in possession and Wolfgang Blochwitz the deputy.

This time however, Blochwitz won 5-1. Jena's home league record thus far is played 8 won 8, for 27 goals to 7.

The most popular team however is Dynamo Dresden for whom Hans-Jurgen Kreische began his come-back in a training game.

In the first half of the season Dynamo averaged home gates of 22,000. Away to Vorwarts, Dresden conceded two penalties—one early and one late—but in between they scored three times to win 3-2 with Frank Ganzera hitting two in the space of three minutes.

They continue to concede goals, though scoring plenty themselves, largely because they have been badly hit by injuries.

At home to Wismut Aue Dynamo led 2-0 at half time only to draw 2-2 before 27,000 but next time out against relegation threatened Stahl Riesa, left winger Kotte took a hat-trick against his old club in a 4-0 win.

On the same day second placed 1st FC Magdeburg ended a run of seven league and Cup games without a win when they beat FC Karl Marx Stadt 2-0 away. They lost 21-5 on corners but Jurgen Pommerenke set them off to a good start scoring from a third minute penalty.

It was an eventful day altogether for Wismut Aue at home to Vorwarts lost their unbeaten home record by the firm figure of 4-0.

The Army team will probably never by the same as they were in their glory days in Berlin but this leaves the Jena club the only team unbeaten at home.

The national side got off the mark early beating Hungarian 1st Division club Dosza Pecs 6-1 before a snow storm led to abandonment after 80 minutes.

League top scorer Hans-Bert Matoul (Lokomotive Leipzig) made his bow for the national squad and scored twice as did Wolfram Lowe and Eberhard Vogel.

Matoul has 15 league goals followed by internationals Streiche (10), Ducke (9), and Sparwasser (8).

Maric player

YUGOSLAVIA'S Footballer of the Year by more than 100 votes in less than 200 was Velez Mostar goalkeeper Enver Maric who has played a vital part in Yugoslavia's World Cup qualification.

Highlight of his year was the penalty save he made from Gerd Muller the day Yugoslavia beat West Germany 1-0.

Before the vital play-off against Spain all the stars took part in a four-club tournament at Split on the Adriatic coast where the climate is friendly.

In the final trial match the National XI beat Hajduk Split by 4-1 with centre forward Slobodan Santrac (on special leave from the Army, scoring twice).

This, perhaps, was a deliberate ploy to fox Spain's boss, the Hungarian, Czech, Spaniard, Ladislav Kubala who was watching from the stand.

The new 'collective' that took over from Vujadin Bojkov after the 0-0 draw with Spain at Zagreb appears to be falling apart. Milovan Ciric, assistant to Bojkov, remains one of a five man committee to pick the team, but overall control seems to be in the hands of Miljan Miljanovic, the Technical Director.

Several members of the band don't like it and it seems Miljanic is going to have to make up his mind. He would be welcomed with open arms by both

Yugoslavia hero Josip Katalinski, chaired by his delighted countrymen after the match against Spain.

wins award

Benefica and Real Madrid but he is still under contract to Red Star even though he walked out.

After the 1-0 win against Spain in Frankfurt — Yugoslavia's first ever success in six games v. Spain—Miljanic said: "That is my task completed."

Many people thought he would stay on to guide Yugoslavia in the World Cup final stages for this was certainly the impression he gave earlier.

Meanwhile, still without their star full backs Petar Krivokuca and Dragoslav Stepanovic through injury, the Slavs looked very impressive. Stepanovic, Footballer of the Year in 1972, was transferred during the winter break to Red Star from OFK Beograd.

Action from the Spain-Yugoslavia encounter in Frankfurt which resulted in Yugoslavia going through to the World Cup finals.

SQUAD GETS SET

BULGARIA'S World Cup squad assembled at the end of January for a pre-spring season tour in warm countries. Games were arranged in Cyprus and Greece and national team manager Christo Mladenov named a 28 man squad.

Excluded was the 1973 top league scorer Petar Jekov who has his last chance at re-habilitating himself by doing well for his club CSKA against Bayern Munchen in the European Cup.

The odds are even for Mladenov badly needs a central spearhead who can get goals regularly, though Jekov seems to be over the top.

From the 28 men called up several were axed within hours.

During the six-week lay-off they had not trained seriously as requested and were sent home . . . overweight.

One of the key men in the Bulgarian squad is the central figure in the defence, Dobromir Jetchev, who has played a vital part in Levski's bid to run away with the 1973-74 championship.

With almost 350 league games behind him and 67 internationals, Jetchev is in line for his 4th World Cup.

In the first match Bulgaria beat Cyprus 4-1 but star midfield general Christo Bonev made headlines in another match against Cypriot club Anothosis. The Bulgarians won 10-0 and Bonev scored seven times.

Kacani is fined by FA

MORE changes have been effected within the Czech FA (football section of the Sports Federation) designed to bring football men into the forefront. The major problem is the general malaise of the Czech game since qualifying for the 1970 World Cup.

Clamping down on clubs who sack their coaches before their contracted term is up, the FA have also fined former international forward Ladislav Kacani, who quit his job with Lokomotive Kosice.

Kacani was assistant to Ladislav Novak three years ago when he had a year with the national team in 1971.

His reasons for leaving his club were personal—his family live in Bratislava where he also works at the Sports University—and travel to and from Kosice was a big problem.

The fine was only nominal but enough to make it plain that the FA intend to make everyone honour their contracts (on both sides).

Vaclav Jezek, manager of the national team, is re-juvenating his side by promoting the Under-23 squad that won the 1972 European Cup at that level.

The next big test is the 1976 European Championship in which the Czechs have to beat Portugal and England to qualify.

Getting off to an early start, Jezek fielded a young team against an East German League XI (the World Cup team in disguise) and drew 0-0 while making a very good impression.

They followed that three days later with a good 2-0 win over the East German Under-23's.

The programme for the national team gives Jezek chances to blood everyone for in March-April they meet East Germany, Brazil, Argentina, Poland, Bulgaria and France.

Preparing for their European Cup battle with Ujpest Dosza, champions Spartak Trnava toured South America. They left behind their talented but temperamental veteran forward Jozef Adamec, suspended for six months.

Sent off in a league game at home to Teplice, for punching an opponent, Adamec has been in trouble often before and this ban virtually ends his career that promised much but never reached fulfilment.

Certainly Adamec had the talent to be a big star but lacked the character.

LUBANSKI WILL PLAY

A 36-MAN squad was called up by Polish national team manager Kazimierz Gorski for the preliminary preparations building up to the World Cup proper.

Starting in mid-February the squad will train at home together before leaving for a three week tour prior to the resumption of league fixtures.

Games have been arranged in West Germany, Italy and East Germany—all against club sides—but Poland will also meet the national team of Zaire.

Wlodzimierz Lubanski, star centre forward and captain of the national team, is fully fit again after missing the vital qualifying games at home to Wales and away to England. Lubanski spent two weeks in England around Christmas and began serious training soon afterwards.

POLAND

He is expected to go on tour but play very sparingly at first.

Poland's leading football weekly *Pitka nozna* has followed West Germany's lead and published their ranking list of their own players for 1973.

According to their assessment, five players are "World Class": Jerzy Gorgon, Leslaw Cmikiewicz, Kazimierz Denya, Wlodzimierz Lubanski and Robert Gadocha.

Doubtless many English experts will laugh at this . . . just as they laughed at Poland and wrote them as *amateurs who couldn't play*, just hours before they put England out of the World Cup.

Goalkeeper Jan Tomaszewski is only rated 'International class' and being unfit and doubtful for the World Cup through injury this poses a problem. Behind Tomaszewski, the most experienced goalkeeper is Jan Gomola who is 32 and not even an automatic choice for his club Gornik Zabrze, where he has a 21-year-old rival Andrzej Fischer.

Gorgon of Poland.

Experiment is failure

THE 1973 experiment in Russia to eliminate draws was intended to promote more positive attacking football. Everyone now recognises that it failed and that only a change of heart by coaches and club officials can put the Russian game back on a firm footing.

One interesting point emerges from tht penalties—it is clearly a personal thing unrelated to skill when facing a goal from the spot.

Normal time

Almost every team has a natural penalty taker, proven by the 41 scored (out of 53) in normal time. But after a draw five different players have to take spot kicks and many clubs just couldn't find penalty takers.

For the first time indoor football was put on in Moscow during the winter and proved a great success. On the three evenings of the tournament there were 12,000 sell-outs.

RUSSIA

Playing 5-a-side with any number of substitutions (like Ice Hockey) the pitch was around 65 yards by 35 and two halves were played of 30 minutes each.

Another innovation from Ice Hockey was the use of a sin-bin, with players guilty of foul play sent off for five minutes.

Moscow Spartak won the tournament, thanks largely to a 5-0 win over Torpedo. In their other games they drew 4-4 with ZDSA and 2-2 against Second Division Lokomotive.

Conceded

ZDSA also won one and drew two—beating Lokomotive 2-1 but drawing 4-4 with Torpedo as well as Spartak.

Scoring fewer than Spartak they also conceded more. Torpedo, after a disastrous season in 1973 just managed to beat Lokomotive 5-3.

Following criticisms by the specialist football papers and in particular the one million circulation daily Sovietski Sport, the national press have joined in the condemnation of club 'Directors'.

Izvestia criticised the industrial bosses who run football clubs from office desks in factories though knowing nothing about the game.

Young

In particular, Izvestia condemned the sacking of Alexander Sevidov, the new manager of Dynamo Kiev. As already mentioned in this magazine Sevidov rebuilt the team with young players and was second in the league and reached the FA Cup Final.

Many other clubs would have thought it a great season but Sevidov was sacked. *Pravda* joined in to demand more pitches for youngsters and greater encouragement for them, claiming there were fewer pitches now than ever before in the last 20 years.

Anderlecht revival continues

BELGIUM

ANDERLECHT are confirming their revival in Belgium and with a five point gap opened at the top of the table look certain to become champions for the first time since 1972 when they achieved the League and Cup double.

The continued demise of Standard Liege, FC Bruges and to a lesser extent RWD Molenbeek has given Antwerp and FC Malines a chance of improving their status. Antwerp are now second in fact with Malines third on goal average from RWD.

Bruges have a new trainer in the form of Ernst Happel but as yet there has been no significant change in their fortunes.

The proposed new Professional League for 1974-75 is going ahead. In Division One the number of clubs will be 20. This will be reduced to 19 the season following and 18 in 1976-77. This will mean three teams being relegated in the next two terms and two promoted from Division Two.

Two clubs of the First Division will go down in theory this season leaving 14. The other six places will be awarded according to acceptance of professional status to the first two in the Second Division, the next two in a complicated play-off and another couple who will play test matches against the two relegated clubs from Division One.

Similar rearrangement will be made in the lower divisions, too.

Belgium captain Paul Van Himst.

Goal average is down

GREECE

OLYMPIAKOS are going well at the top of the championship table in Greece and are still undefeated after 20 matches, dropping only four points in the process.

They have scored more goals than anyone else in the League and have conceded only eight themselves. Of their 62 goals, eight of them were scored in one game against Apollon Athens while they helped themselves to six in matches against Aigaleo and Panseraikos, too.

Attendances

Not surprisingly they have attracted the most spectators again and topped the popularity charts with 234,472 fans at home. Overall attendances are holding up quite well with the first 153 games of the championship attracting 1,586,162 for an average of 10,370.

Goalscoring generally is not reaching sensational proportions, however, with 391 goals producing only an average of 2.6 a game.

Yazalde blow for Sporting

PORTUGAL

SPORTING LISBON'S hopes of winning the championship in Portugal hampered in recent weeks by the injury to their leading scorer 29-goal Hector Yazalde. So worried were officials about him that they sent him to London to see a specialist.

Midfield player Fraguito and centre back Laranjiera have also been under treatment but Sporting have managed to keep on top of the League with a point lead over both Porto and Benfica.

Porto with the addition of the Peruvian international Teofilo Cubillas are expected to put in a late bid for the honours, but the former World Cup striker has made a quiet start with them.

Credentials

Benfica have unearthed yet another successor to Eusebio. But this one appears to have stronger credentials than the host of others who have preceded him. A 19-year-old from Angola called Jose Pedro he impressed in an 18-1 win over a Ponta Delgada selection in a friendly. He scored twice in one half as did Eusebio himself in a 35-minute appearance, though the star was Artur Jorge who hit five in his 45-minute stint.

SHOCKS FOR FOLA

LUXEMBOURG

SHOCKS in the Luxembourg Cup with four of the First Division sides getting knocked out. Fola Esch, The National and Rumelange all fell by the wayside against clubs outside the First Division, but the biggest disaster befell Aris Bonnevoie.

Champions themselves only two years ago, Aris found themselves beaten by unknown FC Ehlerange — virtually the Luxembourg equivalent of a non-league side. They lost 2-1 with the winning goal being scored in the 119th minute during extra time.

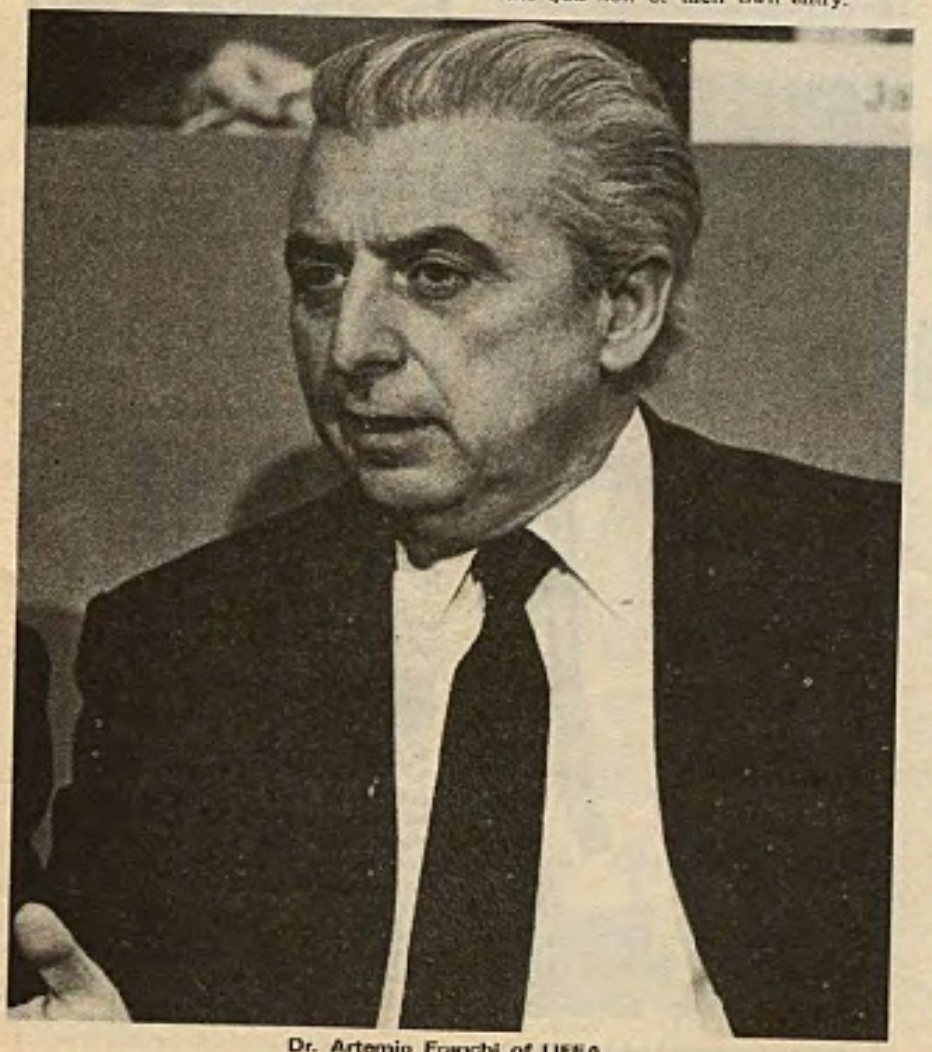
ROUS WILL EXPEL TAI

WELCOME back to our old friend, the Red and Yellow Peril. Yes folks, it's those little old Red Chinese who are just longing to swarm across your football fields and pour in their untold millions down your running tracks, if only nasty FIFA and the Olympic Committee would let them!

So, at least, we are to believe, from the lucubrations of certain correspondents, who have swallowed the Red Chinese propaganda line down to the very, not too subtly baited, hook. FIFA, we are told, insist stubbornly on recognising only one China in little, old Taiwan, Formosa to you, thus keeping out the pullulating hordes of the Real China.

Life, alas, is not so simple, and in presenting this extremely biased and contentious view of the case, these gentlemen have violated the truth and been very unfair to FIFA. The fact is that Sir Stanley Rous, the President of FIFA, would be delighted to see Red China in the fold, has indeed bent over backwards—if that be not too disrespectful a metaphor for one of our most potent, grave and reverend signors—to accommodate them.

The sticking point has, indeed, been Taiwan; but it is the point at which Red China has struck, rather than FIFA. China, in fact, have insisted that the expulsion of Taiwan from FIFA is a *sine qua non* of their own entry.



Dr. Artemio Franchi of UEFA.

FIFA have replied that with the best will in the world, they can find no reason to throw Taiwan out, for the Formosans have done no wrong, violated no norm, transgressed no rule. They have asked the People's Republic to apply for membership, telling them that they would give them permission to play FIFA members in the meantime. Alas, no dice.

Bulldozed

Having bulldozed their way into the United Nations at the expense of Formosa, Red China clearly believe that the same *real politik* can be made to work in FIFA's case. Not while Rous is there, it can't; but if he is defeated by Havelange, come this summer's Presidential elections, then a wind of change may blow.

It looked till quite recently that Havelange was cruising confidently into port. He had the support of the always paranoiac, anti - European, South American countries, he had the support of most of the Africans, on whom he had worked with enormous diligence, he appeared to have the support of the Russians, who were reacting petulantly against their exclusion from the World Cup, apparently blaming Rous. But the De Moraes bombshell may have changed things.

Enlighten

Since it has been very sparsely reported in this country, let me enlighten you as to what happened. De Moraes is the Brazilian referee who was taken off the Uraguay-Sweden match in Puebla during the 1970 World Cup by Rous himself, on the morning of the game. It was an unhappy affair, and one I took pains to investigate on a visit to FIFA's headquarters in Zurich (which the grandiose Havelange, as part of his election programme, wishes to rebuild).

Rumours were floating about Puebla, and indeed, Mexico City, that if De Moraes were offered money, by either Uruguay or Sweden, he would favour that team. These rumours were reported to FIFA by a Swedish businessman with interests in Brazil. When Rous heard them, and found himself in Puebla, he summoned De Moraes to the presence, on his own initiative, and convinced him it was better that he withdrew from the match.

NOT WAN

BRIAN GLANVILLE supports FIFA and their attitude towards recognising China. Eric Batty presents a different view on page 29

Inevitably he was criticised for high-handed behaviour, but his answer, properly enough, was that it was impossible at that short notice to gather together the members of the Referees' Committee, scattered as they were all ovtr Mexico.

Poor Moraes' career, however, was in ruins. The Uraguayans, feeling themselves the maligned party, sent a furious protest to FIFA, who rejected it. Doubtless this had something to do with the Uraguayans' malignant attitude to the four British Associations a couple of years ago, when he officially proposed the motion that we be reduced from a representation of four to a representation of a mere one, in FIFA and the World Cup.

For the best part of four years De Moraes suffered; though scarcely in silence, for he made vigorous defences of his own innocence. It was well known who had started the rumours; a Brazilian journalist who was himself a referee, jealous that he had been passed over in favour of De Moraes. But De Moraes was, it now appears, just biding his time. At the turn of the year, he suddenly announced that in 1970 he had been asked by Brazilian officials to try to "sweeten" his fellow referees, in favour of the Brazilian team!

Conspiracy

Chaos and consternation. Joao Havelange brought a law suit against De Moraes, announcing plaintively and petulantly that it was all a conspiracy by the Italians, who wanted their own and UEFA's President, Artemio Franchi, to get the job. Franchi laughed the idea to scorn; he was neither rich enough nor made enough, he said, to covet the Presidency. There, at the moment of writing, it lies.

Havelange feels a great blow has been dealt to his candidacy, as well it might have been. Will Russia maintain their support for him; which presumably carries with it the support of all their Iron Curtain clients and minions? Will Sir Stanley, who shows no sign of bagging, still less of retiring, for all his years, remain in power? 'Tis a consummation devoutly to be wished.

Two stories, to conclude, from Italy, where the wild carousel of professional football shows no sign of slowing down, or becoming any the less bizarre. The first concerns the Torino centre-forward, Pulici, who had a hand in the first goal against England in Turin, last summer.

He was taking part, this season, in a training game at the old Filadelfia Stadium, of blessed memory, when he clashed in the exact sense of the word with Mozzini. An angry exchange followed. Gingnoni, the Sardinian manager, tried to make peace between the two, but failed.

Pulici stamped off the field and, once off, performed the customary ritual gesture by tearing off his jersey and throwing it to the ground. The crowd of watching fans—fans do watch training games in Italy—shouted, "Clown, clown!" at him. Pulici replied with a volley of insults, and a challenge to certain, selected fans to fight.

Comforted

He then rushed into the dressing room, sat down, and there, we are told, burst out in *un pianto di rabbia*, angry tears to you, and was comforted by the coach, Cancian. How unlike the home life of our own dear strikers!

You expect that sort of thing a lot farther South; in such places as Tranato, who this season appointed as their new manager none other than Gianni Invernizzi, who not so long ago won the Championship with Inter: a fair capture for a B Division club.

Unfortunately, Taranto have a President of the real, old, self-asserting *commendatore* kind, a certain Signor Di Maggio who even sits on the bench during matches, beside his manager.

Sulked

There were early disagreements between the two, which culminated in Di Maggio petulantly quitting the bench; and bringing in the Sicilian coach, Di Bella, as a highly paid "Technical Consultant," over Invernizzi's head. Tumult in the town. Di Bella went back to Sicily, Di Maggio figuratively sulked in his tent, wouldn't go to matches, but had them filmed for home projection at 400,000 lire (about £280) at time.

The position was still more richly complicated by the fact that Taranto suddenly began winning, beating everybody, even the hitherto unbeaten Ascoli, so that now Di Maggio wouldn't go to games for superstitious reasons. Ah, well. A further lease of life is thus given to that old NEW YORKER joke, "No, but I saw the movie."

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WORLD SOCCER interview with Rivelino (Brazil)

WE ARE READY TO GO!

QUESTION: In one of his rare interviews, Didi, the former Brazilian star, said that he would be very surprised if a South American team were to win the 1974 World Cup. How do you react to this statement?

ANSWER: Obviously what Didi was referring to was the way Brazil played in England in 1966, when none of the squad really coped at all with either the conditions or the more physical European approach. However, the Brazil of 1974 is a very different proposition.

We are now fully geared to both European tactics and conditions and in fact so are the Argentinians who, a few months ago, beat West Germany 3-2 away from home.

In fact it wouldn't surprise me at all if the Argentinians gave us more trouble than anyone else.

It seems that the Brazilians, like everyone else, have become obsessed with not losing. Apart from their 2-0 defeat by Italy last summer, Brazil's unbeaten record stretches back almost four years and it looks as though they are conscious of it each time they play. Has the flair which made Brazil famous throughout the world disappeared?

Rivelino of Brazil.

Far from it. With players such as Paulo Cesar in our side, we are capable of serving up exactly the same kind of attacking football which won us so much praise in 1970. But as I've just said, playing in Europe requires a totally different outlook on the part of any South American side. We are now, therefore, probably a far better all-round side than four years ago.

And our defence, which received a fair amount of adverse comment in Mexico, has really tightened up and will undoubtedly pose quite a few questions to opposing forwards.

Was Brazil's morale at all affected following the 2-0 defeat at the hands of Italy last summer?

Yes, but only for a short time. You see, before last summer's European tour, our coach Mario Zagalo told us that the three games he wanted us to do well in were those against Italy, West Germany and Scotland.

Well, we defeated West Germany and Scotland, and these victories more than compensated for our comparatively poor performance against Italy.

Now that Pele has retired from international football, who do you think will take his place?

This is a difficult one, because frankly I don't think Brazil will ever properly replace Pele. What we've got to do therefore is to make sure that in future the talent in the side is more evenly distributed than before. In my opinion I think that we have now achieved this objective.

Which countries would you like to see in the Final in Munich?

Well, obviously Brazil. And I would be more than delighted if our opponents were Argentina. My reason for this?

Well I'd like that age-old myth that South American countries can never do well in Europe be dispelled once and for all.

'I don't think Brazil will properly replace Pele, therefore...'

Your career as a footballer has not been without set-backs. At the age of 19, you had to have a body-building course with a special diet as at the time you were lacking in stamina. How did this affect your career?

In retrospect, I think that in a strange kind of way my physical difficulties proved to be a blessing in disguise. I say this because it was only when I reached the age of 19 that I realised that if I hoped to reach the top I would have to improve my general physical condition.

If I hadn't realised this stark fact, I shudder to think what would have happened. So, basically the effect on my career was a truly worthwhile one.

It has been said of you that you dislike physical training . . .

It's not so much that I dislike training, it's just that I feel more importance should be attached to ball control and so on than the normal training schedule of running and weight-lifting.

I fully appreciate that weight-lifting, for example, is of considerable benefit, but frankly I find it a bit of a drag. I am only happy at a training session when I have a ball at my feet!

WORLD SOCCER DIARY...WORLD SOCCER DIARY...WORLD SOCCER

"The White Devil"...Kreische back ...Brazil pick 22...Remember Baartz? ...Sunday Football loses novelty

AFTER a succession of nicknames in modern times which have dubbed stars as the "Black Panther", "Black Pearl", "Black Diamond" and "The Man in Black", it is worth noting that the one white player in Haiti's World Cup squad is known as "The White Devil", appropriate enough in this land of voodoo.

Philippe Vorbe is the key figure in the midfield part of the team and at 26 has been capped by his country on 62 occasions. An experienced player, he spent some time in 1968 playing in the United States for New York Generals.

A former captain of the Haiti national team, he resigned his position when his father was made President of the Haitian F.A.

★ ★ ★

IN anticipation of the ban on foreign players being lifted after the World Cup, the Italian club Inter-Milan have signed an option on the transfer of Miguel Brindisi from the Argentinian club Huracan.

The fee involved is £360,000 which is small by local standards but high for Argentina.

Brindisi is only 23 and just about the hottest property in Argentina at present. He is a midfield player who is regularly among the goals and an expert penalty taker.

And playing in the same group as Italy it will give him some idea what to expect if and when he moves.

★ ★ ★

ZAIRE'S right winger Mayanga Maku is looking forward to playing against Brazil in the World Cup finals in June. His reason? He rates the best match he has ever played in was against the Brazilian club Santos in January 1969.

Zaire won the game 3-2 and Mayanga scored one of their goals. His immediate opponent was Carlos Alberto who has been named in the Brazilian squad recently and could well be back in the reckoning for a senior place in the finals.

★ ★ ★

HANS JURGEN KREISCHE, the East German international who with 40 caps and 24 goals for the national team is the leading light of the side at present, is making good progress from the serious leg injury he suffered against Rumania in a World Cup qualifying match last autumn.

Kreische, who was top scorer in the country for Dynamo Dresden for the last three seasons, is one reason why East Germany consider they have a good chance in the competition, particularly as they are virtually the next best situated team after the hosts West Germany.

On the other hand there is less encouraging news of the Polish international Wlodzimierz Lubanski, injured in another World Cup match last summer against England. Lubanski has only just resumed light training and is still considered a long way from full fitness.

Though Poland eventually qualified at England's expense without Lubanski in the team at Wembley, their hopes of progressing in the finals depend on his inclusion.

★ ★ ★

BRAZIL'S World Cup squad of 22 was the first to be announced. It contains a few surprises and none more astonishing than the appearance of the veteran goalkeeper Felix.

Thirty-seven-year-old Felix was popularly rated as the worst goalkeeper in Mexico four years ago, but because of the poverty of Brazil as far as the last line of defence is concerned, he is included again.

Felix was not in the squad which came to Europe last year. Of the three who came Leao, Wendell and Renato, the last named has been omitted and his place taken by Felix.

★ ★ ★

MANCHESTER UNITED supporters, who have not been enjoying too much of a good season, will probably be surprised to discover that one of their former players will be in the World Cup this summer.

Though they are probably going to have at least two of their current team with the Scottish squad in Jim Holton and Willie Morgan, a third one formerly associated with the Old Trafford club is playing for Australia.

He is Ray Baartz who was on the books of the Reds some eight or nine years ago as a teenage professional. He could not settle in England and returned to Australia.

Now he is the most capped Australian international with 46 caps and is only 26 years old. Nicknamed "Bulldozer", he has a reputation as being a useful player with a strong left foot shot.

★ ★ ★

MEXICO'S disappointment at failure to qualify for the World Cup has not been made any easier to bear, since at least three players with Mexican First Division clubs are likely to figure in the finals.

All three will probably be included in Chile's party for the World Cup tournament. They are sweeper Alberto Quintano, full back Juan Rodriguez and striker Carlos Reinoso. Quintano plays for Curz Azul and has done so well that he was elected Footballer of the Year in Mexico last year.

Rodriguez plays for Atletico Espanol and Reinoso of America FC scored the goal which put Chile through to the play-off with Russia.

★ ★ ★

SUNDAY football, which has become a feature in crisis-torn England and Scotland in recent weeks, is gradually losing its novelty value. Clubs who began the experiment originally found that their attendances increased, but they have discovered them slipping of late.

And while it is too early to judge whether a wholesale switch to Sunday for the lower divisions at least is the answer to falling crowds, it would be foolish to make any definite proposals until further opportunities are given to the position.

★ ★ ★

ANOTHER of the surprise selections in the Brazilian World Cup squad was midfield player Ademir da Guia who plays for Palmeiras. Once hailed as the answer to Pele, he has been out of the limelight for half a decade and was not in the 1970 World Cup team.

Ademir da Guia made something of a come-back in 1972 when he finished joint fourth in the South American Footballer of the Year poll. But his reappearance for the national squad means that team boss Mario Zagola is far from happy about the fact that nobody has been able to replace the great Pele.

SIR STANLEY ROUS versus JOAO HAVELAN

South Amer support for

"WE have nothing against Sir Stanley Rous. We just think it is about time for a South American to be president of FIFA."

These few words, spoken by Teofilo Salinas, the Peruvian president of CONMEBAL, the South American football confederation, provided the first official salvo in the race for the FIFA presidency.

His backing and that of all the South American nations will go behind one Joao Marie Faustin Havelange when Sir Stanley faces his most serious challenge as FIFA president at the World Cup finals in West Germany this summer.

Sir Stanley is up for re-election, an event which in the past has been a straightforward enough poll.

But this election promises to be different. The unofficial campaign has already been running for well over a year. The candidates' supporters are beginning to make their preferences known, and as the election draws near, so the issues are becoming clearer.

And what is clear is that the words of Dr Salinas are misleading. They intimate that the South Americans feel *only* an impatience for a change. And nothing could be further from the truth.

South American resentment against Sir Stanley and his—to them—European-slanted attitudes has been building up since the explosive incidents on the field of play during the 1966 World Cup.

Expulsion

The South Americans added up their grievances at the end of that tournament: a number of expulsions (by European referees); England playing all their matches at Wembley; and Brazil (if you like, Pele) kicked out of the competition.

Sir Alf Ramsey's comments about Argentina did not help and Sir Stanley's being of the same nationality was no aid to his peace-keeping efforts.

There was even some hot-headed talk of secession from some South American elements, but this was not taken seriously: matches against European national and club sides are too lucrative to be dispensed with in such a drastic manner.

Yet surprisingly, the nearer the election comes, the more the virulent anti-European attitude of the South American *bloc* is being blurred. Havelange, overlord of Brazil's 1958, 1962 and 1970 World Cup successes, was well aware that to have any chance of standing against Sir Stanley he had to present himself as a man of reason to the *whole* football world.

His record with Brazil speaks for itself. He has traded, justifiably, on his record as a man of action and has spent many months on a brazen whistle-stop tour of the football world.

Surface

Europe he has conceded to "Sir Rous" —as the foreign press frequently refer to our man in FIFA.

But it is in Asia and Africa that Havelange has, on the surface surprisingly, drawn a great deal of promisory notes.

Sir Stanley has been at the top of the tree for a long time; he was a Football League and Cup Final referee before becoming FA secretary in 1934 and then FIFA president in 1961.

Sir Stanley may find his 13-year stint (unlucky number) in the cause of football his major handicap. Besides doing a great deal of hard work promoting soccer throughout the under-developed world, he has also been involved in some of the controversial issues.

Havelange naturally has capitalised on those areas where many associations feel that Sir Stanley's record is vulnerable.

For example . . .

Many Asian members are unhappy about his attitude to Communist China. Mao's men are outside FIFA and have laid down the same ultimatum which brought eventual membership of the United Nations, i.e. expel Taiwan and we will join.

Refused

Sir Stanley refused to follow the UN lead, but many of China's neighbours—either of their own volition or with some help—have urged the UN line of least resistance.

Havelange has made sympathetic noises in their direction *without* going out of his way to commit himself and in appearing at least amenable to persuasion would seem to have annexed most of the Asian votes. South Africa is another problem child.

Sir Stanley has been patient with this issue which bedevils international sport. But his prudence, his refusal to jump either way, and desire to leave at least one door open, has upset many African nations.

They want in soccer, as in so many other fields, the total exclusion of South Africa because of apartheid. They were offended by the way many British players were allowed to play on temporary transfer in Mr. Vorster's anachronistic society. The Black African nations saw this—rightly or wrongly—as Sir Stanley pandering to Anglo/South African interests.

Majority

It was, they felt, an example of the way Europe—with its 32 FIFA votes (the number is now 33)—was riding roughshod in typical fashion over the wishes of a majority of FIFA members.

Havelange certainly wishes to keep South Africa at arm's length and it is a small but not insignificant triumph for the hawks that FIFA has recently clamped down on the temporary transfers. In that context it will be interesting to see where George Best goes next.

These are the "soft" problems, the ones which will drag on, generating a great deal of heat over a long period.

But there is another issue which exploded only last year and—as far as the election is concerned—exploded in Sir Stanley's face.

The parties involved are Chile and Russia and this issue could be by far the most sinister factor in deciding who wins the race for top job at FIFA.

The cause we know: that Russia refused to play Chile in the temporary prison camp which had been the Estadio Nacional in Santiago. Even a report from a special FIFA delegation failed to change the Russians' mind. FIFA—and Sir Stanley—told the Russians to go ahead and play or face expulsion from the World Cup.

The Russians did not play, were tipped out of the cup and poured all the vitriolic

GE...the race for the FIFA Presidency hots up

icans lobby their man

scorn they could muster into a series of attacks on Sir Stanley.

Many "insiders" saw this as a hint to Havelange that if he could arrange a compromise over a replay with Chile, Russia and her satellites would cast their election votes and influence in his favour.

But this caught Havelange in a cleft stick. For one, Chile are a South American nation and he has no wish to rock the boat at home; secondly, the FIFA report from Santiago had been prepared in part by Abilio Ferreira d'Almeida, secretary of the Brazilian sports confederation of which Havelange is president.

Agreement

So, galling though it must have been, Havelange had to stand up and announce his total agreement with Sir Stanley and the FIFA executive committee.

The Russians and their neighbours may not vote for Havelange, then, but at the moment they appear extremely unlikely to vote for Sir Stanley either. Havelange is a shrewd businessman and a political realist. He has told journalists on a number of occasions that having counted up the votes he has been promised, having set against them the votes he expects to fall to Sir Stanley and taking into account the usual number of abstentions, he considers himself virtualy home and dry.

His calculations on figures have also provoked a new series of outbursts from Europe about the unfairness of one country only having one FIFA vote.

Influential

Many important personages, the latest to speak up is Jacques Georges, the influential Frenchman, feel that it is wrong that the continent which is home to three-quarters of the footballers of FIFA should have only a minority *bloc* vote.

They feel that the system should be amended so that national associations' votes should be relative to the number of players (amateur and professional) registered with them.

If the system could be changed in time for the presidential election, Sir Stanley would be home and dry. But that is a dream. It is out of the question; the issue has been resurrected far too late.

There are rumours that Sir Stanley will withdraw before the election reaches a "him-or-me" voting situation. This seems unlikely, but he must find some votes from somewhere if he wants to stay in the president's role in succession to these revered names:

Robert Guerin (France, elected 1904), D. B. Woodfall (England, elected 1906), Jules Rimet (France, 1921), Randolphe Seeldrayers (Belgium, 1954), Arthur Drewry (England, 1956-61).

The South Americans could well be right: it is high time a South American should be president of FIFA. But what worries most people is the intention behind the reasoning.

Sir Stanley Rous—President of FIFA.

WOULD RAM PICK HIMSE

ASK any of the world's outstanding players to name a World XI and modesty would probably forbid them from choosing themselves. This is perfectly understandable but there are today many managers and coaches in the professional game who would not even have signed themselves, let alone a first team place. Many of the players I saw 20 years or so ago are included in this category but right at the top of my list as an outstanding example of what can only be described as double-standards is Sir Alf Ramsey.

As I have already made clear I have been amongst his biggest — if not his greatest — critics in the past but I will not lay all the blame for the malaise of English football at his door. When he claims, as he has done recently, that there is nothing wrong with the English game he is trying to fool the public or, even worse, *himself*.

But there is one facet of the England-Ramsey situation that has not, as far as I know, been mentioned. He did not reject the offer of a knighthood after he had managed the England team that won the World Cup in 1966. He was willing to be the symbol of success if not acknowledge that he was its architect.

But now that England have been eliminated from the World Cup he professes to be mystified.

This is something that cannot be taken both ways. Either the manager makes it plain that the credit is due (for success) to the players and the clubs that produced them — and refuses personal honours — or he takes the criticism when they fail. No manager can accept the adulation of the masses for success and refuse responsibility when things go wrong.

Yet even more intriguing is the idea that Ramsey would not have picked himself to play for England. In fact, I doubt if he would have given himself a chance in the First Division if he were a club manager.

This may seem incredible to those who never saw him or are too young to remember how he played—but I am convinced that it is true. Most of the big name football writers of Ramsey's playing days have now passed from the scene so for the benefit of those who never had the privilege let me describe how I recall Ramsey the player.

Emlyn Hughes of Liverpool . . . not exactly in the Ramsey mould as a full back.

Cultured

The first word that comes to mind is cultured. This has nothing to do with background or education but merely his general approach to the game. For a start he could barely run — he could possibly have done 100 metres (without a ball) in about 20 seconds — but he was never called on to do that as a player.

Cultured he certainly was, just as his left foot was a swinger. He only ever used that for standing on and he wasn't very good in the air either. That doesn't mean that he couldn't head a ball for he often did . . . off the goal-line with his 'keeper beaten to save certain goals, but he wasn't the kind who could go up with an opponent for a fifty-fifty ball in the air . . . and win it.

Between 1949 and 1954 Ramsey made 32 appearances for England. Significantly his last game in an England shirt was that memorable day in 1953 when England were at last forced to recognise that the people over the channel had learned to shoot as well as play. Hungary 6 England 3 was the scoreline but the difference between the two sides was far beyond a three goal margin. To get some idea of the kind of football the Hungarians produced I can do no better than quote England's reserve goalkeeper Ted Burgin, who said afterwards: "If that was football, what is the game I've been playing for the last 15 years?"

AMSEY SELF?

ERIC BATTY says Sir Alf was not the type of player who would play for England today

That was the turning point for me and my thoughts about the game. Until then I had been denied all but the most scant knowledge of foreign football but had earlier had my eyes opened in 1951 when the FA invited a swarm of foreign teams over in May of that year to help celebrate the Festival of Britain.

On the first day of that football fortnight I had been to Tottenham where Spurs met FK Austria. Among the visitors was Ernst Melchior, Gernhardt and Ocwirk. The last named was the captain, Europe's only remaining attacking centre half and a magnificent ball player for a big man.

Before the kick off, Ronnie Burgess (a fine player at left half for Spurs and Wales) received as captain a gift from the Austrians. Ernst Ocwirk, much to the amusement of the crowd, presented the Spurs captain with a huge bunch of flowers.

Involved

Believe me, those flowers were all that Tottenham got that night. The Austrians were so good that Spurs very rarely got a kick. True FK Austria only won by 1-0 — a good goal scored by Ocwirk from two yards out with the side of the foot following a move that involved many consecutive passes without a Tottenham player touching the ball.

Skill and team play were the Austrian strengths, they got the ball and kept it. Fanning out in a circle around Ocwirk, the attacking centre half always had a choice of six or seven un-marked men to pass to. They shuffled the ball around, beat opponents with feints and dummies . . . then gave it back to Ocwirk. They would start a move at left back, go all round the pitch, up both wings and come back to left back . . . BUT THEY STILL HAD THE BALL.

Shadows

Tottenham can hardly ever have worked harder for so little. They were chasing shadows and just to underline the circumstances, a few weeks earlier under manager Arthur Rowe they had won the First Division championship!

I saw one of Spurs last games in that championship campaign — at home to Newcastle. The Geordies had a very gifted side at the time including the much admired Jackie Milburn and the vastly under-rated little inside right Ernie Taylor. They had a good side and they played well that day but Spurs crushed them 7-0.

Paul Madeley, a regular selection for England in the full back position.

These were Spurs palmy days of Eddie Bailey, Les Medley, Alf Ramsey, Bill Nicholson, Ted Ditchburn and Ronnie Burgess. This was the famous push and run side — but against FK Austria they couldn't get the ball to push it, all they could do was run and run and run, trying in vain to get it!

We've digressed a bit but perhaps it will have been of interest to younger readers who unlike myself have not been *spoiled* by having seen most of the World's best teams and players since 1945.

To return to my main theme, however, Ramsey was amongst those players axed after England's 90 years of immunity from defeat at home to foreign teams was smashed forever by the Hungarians.

With another game due against the Hungarians the following May the English set to work to re-build their side. Out went the old players who knew what the game was about — in came the type of player that the experts (and England selectors) thought could upset the Hungarians. Hidegkuti's shots from 20 yards and above all the fabulous goal scored by Puskas from close range after his brilliant draw-back feint and sent Harry Johnstone turning away from him were overlooked. "Skills like the Hungarians had," it was said "could not stand up to the old English qualities of hard tackling and getting stuck in."

● *Continued overleaf*

Would Ramsey pick himself?

We took a younger, fitter, faster team to Budapest — got hammered by SEVEN GOALS TO ONE. On the same tour, prior to the 1954 World Cup England also lost to Yugoslavia, despite the fact that like FK Austria, the Yugoslavs had all the skills but couldn't shoot.

A story I heard later about Austrians illuminates the thinking in Central Europe of that time. It was never to be the same after Puskas & Co., but until then the Central Europeans really believed that goals had to be created like works of art. The Austrians, I was told once found a centre forward with a rocket-like shot — but no one wanted him. "He scores goals with big shots from 25 yards," I was told. The way it was said one would have thought they were describing a jewel thief.

Stocky

But to return again to Ramsey the player.

A little stocky, very slow on the turn and not very good in the tackle he still made himself a reputation as an England-class full back. Everything he did bore the hall-marks of class. Not for him the last ditch sliding tackle; he stayed on his feet, gaining the ball by interception or very often from a ten yard throw from his goalkeeper. Ramsey was not so much a defender as the launching pad for attack. He seldom hit a ball more than 20 yards and specialised in wall-passes (double-pass), taking the ball back from a colleague he had passed to in Spurs inimitable push and run style.

From there he would slide a ball upfield to his winger or an inside forward — always with the INSIDE of the foot. Accurate, even meticulous, he distributed his passes with the care of a skilled watchmaker.

Unwisely axed after the Hungary

● *Continued from previous page*

game Ramsey was never recalled but he had already done enough to make all who saw him remember his play with admiration. Just to intercept passes in front of goal. Uncanny instinct told him where and when the telling pass would be . . . and there he was. Still not satisfied, he frequently dribbled the ball past opponents, sometimes only one, sometimes two or three . . . ON HIS OWN PENALTY SPOT.

Dominant

Now we come to Ramsey the manager and there can be no doubt that such players as I have just described would never grace an England shirt under his control. Taking the last few games as a guide, his ideal backs are Paul Madeley, Emlyn Hughes type. Big, strong, solid in the tackle, dominant in the air. Comparatively unskilled, but difficult to beat and very quick in recovery they are almost the complete opposite of the Ramsey prototype.

All that Ramsey stood for as a player has been rejected. Outdated is the word I think he would use. But the game is the same — two goals, 11-a-side and one ball, and whatever we may think in Britain it is still a game of skill.

Glaring

This I find on reflection is the saddest thing about the English football scene today, that so many managers would never allow their players to perform as they did. Even more glaring examples are provided by Stan Cullis and Neil Franklin who were both stopper centre halves. They were brilliant players who loved to dribble in their own goal-mouths and were never known to kick the ball. Play it with the side of the foot — AND FIND A MAN was their rule.

● *Continued on page 50*

PLAYERS' CHOICE

Norman Hunter, the strong man of the Leeds United side for so many fine seasons, received a fitting tribute in London this month. He was chosen by his fellow professionals as their first "Player of the Year". Hunter took the title ahead of Ian Callaghan, Billy Bremner, Paul Madeley, Emlyn Hughes and Mike Channon (not in that order). It is somewhat ironic that Hunter, so often hammered by the public and Press for his alleged hard play, should win an award presented by those he is supposed to kick.

ELLIOTT SPARKS ROW IN DURBAN...

by LARRY ARCHER

NORMAN ELLIOTT, chairman of Durban City in South Africa's National Football League, has sparked off a fierce argument among his fellow club chairmen with his proposal for cutting the number of overseas players in the NFL.

Some of the chairmen are flatly against the idea. They feel there is not enough talent among local players to justify any limit on the number of imports.

Others believe that the local talent will only be developed to the full if clubs are forced to field fewer overseas players.

Several NFL clubs rely heavily on foreign imports, particularly from Britain, to flesh out their first team ranks and pep up the standard of their play. Cape Town City, last year's First Division winners, for example, have nine overseas men in their side.

Besides playing and coaching, the foreign signings have been a boon to South African soccer in another way. The NFL has been able to select "international" sides from among the overseas players campaigning in this country and pit them against South-African born elevens at a time when the Republic is barred from international events by the FIFA ban. Malcolm Allison's All Stars of 1973 were a typical example.

Plugged

South African fans have been treated to a flavour of international soccer even though the full taste has been denied to them. But even this loophole has been plugged by FIFA's ban on overseas players short-term contracts with NFL clubs. Only those on long-term contracts will be allowed to come here.

Elliott's suggestion that the number of foreign imports should be restricted is scarcely new. Other club chairmen have made the same proposal in the past, but have never been taken seriously.

Ironically, Norman Elliott has always spoken out loudest against the idea. He could hardly do otherwise, having filled the ranks of his own Durban City with British imports.

He still has six overseas men on his books. He tried to get several more during his latest scouting trip to Britain last January, but managed to sign only one — full back Joe Kirkup from Southhampton, who has joined City as player-coach.

Elliott's failure to recruit any more could account for his about-face on the question of imports. He has drawn up a timetable for the gradual phasing out of overseas players which he will put before the NFL general meeting on February 7.

Starting this season, he would like to see every First Division side fielding at least five South African-born players in any one game. He wants this figure to be increased by one every season, so that after 1978 no team will be able to field less than nine South Africans.

The most severe critic of Elliott's scheme is Ian Taylor, chaiman of Cape Town City. He dismisses the plan as "a piece of expediency to make up for the failure of his scouting trip". And he shudders at the thought of the complications that would arise if the plan was adopted.

"What do you do in the case of a player who has just signed a three-year contract with you? Do you turn round and scrap his contract?

"Any chairman who did that would have his name dragged through the mud.

"A lot of the overseas boys have been here for years. They've settled down to the extent that they look on themselves as South Africans. It's going to be difficult to decide just who is an overseas player and who is not."

Brush-off

Taylor believes the game would suffer untold damage if overseas men were given the brush-off. "The imports have helped to brighten and refine the standard of play in the NFL. To kick them off the fields now would be stupid and ungrateful.

"The soccer public in this country have become accustomed to a reasonable standard. They won't accept anything less. But less is what they would get if the game were limited to 90 per cent local men.

Taylor agrees that South African talent has got to be fostered, but he says it must be done gradually and not by force.

Syd Chaitowitz, chairman of the Johannesburg club, Rangers, is more receptive to Elliott's proposal, although with reservations. He doubts whether there are enough good South African players to fill nine positions in every NFL team.

"Ever since the NFL was formed in 1959, Rangers have concentrated on developing local talent, particularly among the juniors. But even so we had to pull in Gerard Farrell (ex-Blackburn Rovers) and Roy Jones (ex-Swindon Town) to fill up our first side last season."

Joe Kirkup, former Southampton full back now playing in South Africa.

One chairman who backs up Elliott all the way is Jock Stewart of Germiston Callies, who was laughed at when he proposed the same step seven years ago.

He points to Italy as an example of a country where no team is allowed more than two foreign players.

"If we adopt that rule here," he says, "we'll be forced to pay more attention to the potential on our own doorstep. The country is full of youngsters, neglected up till now, who are just waiting for a chance to break into the professional ranks."

News from Sweden

by Stefan Thylin

Outsiders but in with a chance

IN the Spring 1972 Georg Ericson Sweden's Team Manager, was a worried and depressed man. He couldn't be optimistic about Sweden's chances of reaching the World Cup Finals 1974 even if he tried. 0-0 home to Hungary and 0-2 away to Austria in the first two qualifying games gave him no hope.

Then suddenly it happened.

Ericson brought a tall, dark long-haired teenager into his team—and now Sweden are in the World Cup Finals.

Sounds simple, doesn't it? Well, in a way it is. The fact is that without Ralf Edström Sweden had never made it. Neither Georg Ericson nor the other players in his team can deny that.

Edström's tremendous heading ability and his personality brought enthusiasm into Swedish football — and now Georg Ericson can afford to be optimistic. Sweden's prospects of a good run in the World Cup Finals look brighter than they did four years ago.

● Sweden now have two prolific goal-scorers who can take full advantage of the chances created. Ralf Edström and Roland Sandberg have proved that they can score goals against any team.

Pressure

● The defence was often put under heavy pressure last season, but it never panicked. Ronnie Hellström is a far more reliable and consistent goalkeeper than he was in Mexico 1970. He is more experienced and confident. In the heart of the defence Björn Nordqvist, the captain, is playing with authority. Nordqvist has played more than 70 games for Sweden and he has never been better. The full backs Jan Olsson and Björn Andersson are fast and enthusiastic, dangerous when breaking out of defence in overlapping runs.

● In midfield Sweden have the experience of Bo Larsson, Ove Grahn and Ove Kindvall. All of them used to be strikers — and they can still score vital goals. Kindvall, in fact, played up front in a few games last season, but he prefers coming up from behind. Conny Torstensson, now playing for Bayern Munich, is another goalscoring midfielder who could be an automatic choice this season.

So, what about Sweden's opponents in the preliminary round in West Germany? Well, Holland, Bulgaria and Uruguay are obviously very strong teams and Georg Ericson, of course, would have preferred to be in the same group as one of the weaker nations, Australia(Haiti or Zaire. But the Swedish Manager is quite pleased with the draw.

"I know we're outsiders, but we're not going to West Germany just for the ride," he says.

In Mexico 1970 Sweden played Uruguay in the premilinary round—and won, 1-0. But the overtime goal scored by Ove Grahn couldn't prevent Uruguay from reaching the quarter-finals, along with Italy. Sweden had ruined their chances in the two previous games: 0-1 to Italy, and 1-1 to Israel.

In 1967 Sweden played Bulgaria twice in the European Nations' Cup and lost both games, 0-2 home, 0-3 away. Georg Ericson, and his predecessor Orvar Bergmark, would rather forget those games. Sweden were completely out-played. But that's seven years ago . . . and Ericson knows he has a far better team than Orvar Bergmark had in 1967.

Although Sweden haven't played Holland in recent years, Ericson knows only too well that his team will have a very difficult task. The Swedish manager, like the rest of the soccer world, is quite aware of the standard of players like Cruyff, Keizer and Hulshoff. In the preparation for the game against Holland Ericson will ask three of his players for advice: Edström, Nordqvist and Kindvall. Edström and Nordqvist are both playing as professionals in Holland, with PSV Eindhoven, and Kindvall was the leading goalscorer in Holland a few years ago, with Feyenord.

Leading

"Holland have some outstanding players and if Cruyff is on song they could beat any team. But I think we have a fair chance. I'm looking forward to the match," Edström says.

Edström is one of the leading goal-scorers in Holland and the Dutch will no doubt mark him closely, especially inside the penalty area.

"It doesn't worry me. I'll hit my peak form in the World Cup Finals. They're welcome."

Sweden's most popular player made his debut in the national team against Denmark in June 1972. He scored no goals in his debut, but in the following game, against Russia, there was no one to touch him Edström scored three goals — all of them with his head.

That was the start of it all. It's not just a coincidence that Sweden have had remarkable success since Ralf Edström came into the team. Just look at the results: Denmark 2-0, Russia 4-4, Norway 3-1, Malta (World Cup) 7-0, Denmark 2-1 Austria (World Cup) 3-2, Hungary (World Cup) 3-3, Brazil 1-0, Finland 1-1, Iceland 1-0, Russia 0-0, Finland 2-1, Italy 0-2, Malta (World Cup) 2-1, Austria (World Cup replay) 2-1.

As you can see Sweden won ten of their last fifteen games and lost only one, away to Italy. They played twelve games without a defeat — a record for a Swedish team.

Edström played all but two of these games. He scored nine goals and made another ten. But the No. 1 scorer in the World Cup Qualification was Roland Sandberg, with five goals.

Sweden play three official games before the World Cup: West Germany in Hamburg 1/5, Denmark in Copenhagen 3/6, Switzerland in Malmö 9/6. Before that, in the beginning of March, Georg Ericson takes his squad to Sicily for two weeks training. That squad does not include four key players: Edström, Nordqvist, Sandberg and Grahn. All of them are playing for professional clubs abroad — Edström and Nordqvist with Eindhoven, Sandberg with Kaiserslauten in West Germany, Grahn with Grasshoppers in Switzerland.

Release

Their clubs can't afford to release them in the middle of the season. Conny Torstensson, Bayern Munich, and Benno Magnusson, Sandberg's team mate in Kaiserslauten, are in the same position and won't be released by their clubs.

This is a problem for Georg Ericson, of course. But he's used to it, as well as his predecessors were. It's impossible for Swedish clubs to keep the best players. It's simply a question of money.

"We have the players, but we don't have the money," Ericson says.

It could be enough to have the players in the World Cup Finals. Georg Ericson won't ask for more.

ANOTHER KEEGAN AT LIVERPOOL?

by Eric Thornton

THE name's Ian McDonald, and just in case you've not heard it before, this is a boy who has got his foot on the first rung of the ladder of soccer fame.

Maybe that's been said of many others, on numerous occasions, and come to naught. But there's substance behind it, this time, because the step I'm thinking about takes one through the official door of Liverpool Football Club.

Behind it today, as there often seemed to be during my connection with that outfit between the wars, is a young bunch of eager beavers which now includes this North Lancashire boy.

Rising 20, McDonald was serving an apprenticeship to the game high up on the West Coast when the folk who scout around the Pennines and the Lake District got the message. And, of course, a hint reached William Shankly.

Wing half

Always ready for a look at the young idea, this man who first made a name for himself as a wing half with Scotland and Preston, liked what he saw, and quickly added the boy to the Anfielders' lengthy list of ambitious aspirants.

Those who have seen the youngster in action are confident, but the eventual success of McDonald won't exactly stagger the local inhabitants because the Liverpool boss, and former member of an Ayrshire mining family of 14, long ago developed a fantastic ability for spotting those who might reach the top.

Discoveries

During 14 years of Merseyside rule, he has built almost four separate teams from personal discoveries, and the up-to-date list includes such as Ray Clemence, Larry Lloyd, Steve Heighway, Emlyn Hughes, Alec Lindsay, Brian Hall and Kevin Keegan.

Most are bargain signings, yet don't run away with the idea that Bill Shankly is afraid of spending when the occasion calls for swift use of the cheque book. Far from it. His fearless manner of operating the transfer market was clearly shown when paying out £115,000 for Nottingham Forest's Peter McCormack.

Against that debit account, however, one must credit the triumphs. The League and Cup successes of teams which have always seemed to be chasing prizes. For instance, the League championship, the FA Cup, and European trophies.

Now, McDonald, the shipyard townie who has been suddenly translated to one of the world's wealthiest clubs, is jostling the rest in the queue: ready to fight for that first-team spot, like he has always had to contest every inch of the way.

A while back, young Ian had a preliminary taste of the League game with Barrow. That was shortly before they were thrown out of the Fourth Division. Then he concentrated as a midfield man in the Northern Premier.

Contemplated

In those days, that contemplated soccer future was beginning to fade, and a small-town civvy street job looked the answer when, out of the blue and on to the scene with a surprise offer of a 12-month contract came Workington Town.

They took him 60 miles farther north, restored lost faith, and got him living once more with his eyes on the stars, and thinking only of a place in a First Division dressing room.

It way comforting to dream again. Like it always is. But they never seemed likely to materialise. Yet they did when, one day, Geoff Twentyman, the Liverpool chief scout, joined a group of other sleuths at a match in which Ian starred.

Buyers

The boyo simply couldn't believe his luck when the boss said the League champions were likely buyers. And it was pure fantasy to hear that Workington's valuation had risen to £30,000—which was the price the Anfielders met.

Now, after having recovered from a foot injury sustained in his very first game for Bill Shankly, Ian McDonald is all set for the tough climb into the League line-up, and the thrill of playing in front of a crowded, singing choir on The Kop.

I remember writing nearly three years ago to the effect that new boy Kevin Keegan was going to be great. McDonald could hit the same trail to the top. WATCH HIM!

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ARTHUR ROTMIL previews the Quarter Finals of the three European contests

Decline in Italy and Spain evident

THE draw for the quarter-finals of the three principal European tournaments—the Champions' Cup, Cup Winner's Cup and the UEFA Cup — has produced several highly interesting pairings. It has also underlined, once again, the overall decline of clubs from Italy and Spain, who in the early period of European competitions used to annex most of the trophies with almost monotonous regularity.

Of the 46 cups won in the three contests so far, among the 24 clubs disputing the quarter-final rounds, there are only Atletico Madrid (Champions Cup) and AC Milan (Cup Winners) left, to represent those once so dominant nations.

In their place there has been evident a steady emergence of clubs from Eastern Europe, as indeed is now being noted among the national sides. In the premier competition, the Champions' Cup, half the remaining contenders come from the East: Red Star Belgrade, Ujpest-Dozsa, Spartak Trnava and CSKA Sofia. Whether any of these talented sides can win Europe's most coveted prize is of course another matter.

And it is in fact closely dependent on the lengthy winter break, enforced through climatic conditions, under which normal football is quite impossible, in that part of the Continent in December, January and February.

Programme

Thus, in every tournament, even the strongest challengers from Eastern Europe, handicapped as they were by not having played any competitive soccer for many weeks, were forced to capitulate often before teams of inferior quality, but who had benefited from a regular championship programme, in Western Europe, which allowed their players to retain essential rhythm.

To have to restart in March, and to be plunged straightaway into a testing cup competition has been an ever recurring problem for the "Easterners". Of course, teams who have endured a winter break, but have been paired together, generally must have a better chance.

Such a meeting will take place in the present Champions Cup tournament, namely:

Spartak Trnava v. Ujpest Dozsa.— The Hungarians who have been champions of their country for the past five years, have the edge in experience and they can point to some fine successes in this tourney. Their strength lies in attack, where such prolific goal getters like Bene, Dunai or Fazekas, can on the day outwit even the best defences. The nucleus of the side has remained virtually unchanged for some years, but after several failures they might need motivating afresh.

The Czechs are compact, strong in defence, and they have some useful forwards too, in Kuna, Kabat, or even the enigmatic Adamec. An important factor will be the stamina after the long lay-off. A narrow win for Ujpest Dozsa appears likely.

Red Star Belgrade v. Atletico Madrid. —Following their triumph over Liverpool, the Yugoslav champions were acclaimed in England as one of the greatest sides in the world. But Red Star are not even dominating their home championship, as they did last year. Still, their team forms the backbone of the national side and players like defenders Krivokuca, Bogicevic and Pavlovic, midfield schemers Acimovic and Karasi and strikers Lazarevic and above all the fabulous Dzajic, can if they all hit form, sweep anyone aside.

Variety

But the Spaniards, strengthened by their Argentinian acquisitions, like defender Ramon Heredia and forward Ruben Ayala, plus their experienced campaigners like Garate, Luis and Adelardo have variety and skill as well as "bite". They have a lot at stake here, financially and prestige-wise. After all, Madrid was once the capital of European football—thanks to Atletico's rivals and neighbours Real! The odds are however slightly in favour of Red Star.

Bayern Munich v. CSKA Sofia. — The Bulgarian Army team, who are making their 12th appearance in this competition, have a psychological edge after disposing of the reigning Cup holders Ajax Amsterdam. Bayern, on the other hand, have struggled in previous ties against Atvidaberg of Sweden and Dynamo Dresden, getting through only by the narrowest of margins.

No German club has yet won this trophy and Bayern are determined to break this "duck". Goalkeeper Maier, defenders Schwarzenbeck, Beckenbauer and Breitner, midfielders Kapellmann and Hoeness and especially that goal "machine" Gerd Müller, could make this their year at last. The Bulgarians will not be easy, particularly in Sofia, though they don't appear to have quite the fire power which is essential against such illustrious opposition. So it must be Bayern to win.

Defence

Basel v. Glasgow Celtic. — On paper this is a "cert" for Celtic but . . . the Scottish champions made very heavy weather of defeating the modest Danish amateurs from Vejle by 1-0 overall in the previous round. Basel are stronger than Vejle, although they seem to have gone back a bit since last year, as their lowly League position (8th) shows. Odermatt, Balmer and Hitzfeld are useful forwards, whilst Ramseier in defence, Hasler in midfield and Kunz in goal, complete a balanced picture of the Swiss champions.

Celtic, who have already beaten Basel twice—1963-64 in the Cup Winners Cup and 1969-70 in the Champions Cup — can rely on goalgetters like Kenny Dalglish (43 goals altogether last season) and "Dixie" Deans, who this term hit six and four goals respectively in League matches! The Scots are strong and practically without a weak link, provided they throw off such lethargy as they showed when struggling against the lowly Danes. The forecast must be Celtic.

In the Cup Winners' competition the holders AC Milan must be fancied alongside the redoubtable German side Borussia Mönchengladbach, last year's finalists in the UEFA-Cup. But perhaps the most intriguing quarter-final tie is:

Sporting Lisbon v. FC Zurich. — The Portuguese have won this trophy in 1964, but in the Fairs Cup contest of 1967-68 the Swiss knocked out Sporting

Trevor Whymark and Peter Morris (right) of Ipswich Town, who face Lokomotive Leipzig in the next round of the UEFA Cup.

in the Third Round. Both clubs are currently League leaders in their national championships. The Swiss part-timers will not be as well prepared after the winter break and even though they boast some fine players like Kuhn and Jeandupeux, the odds must be with Sporting.

Their Argentinian-born striker Hector Yazalde is currently leading scorer in European Leagues, while in goalkeeper Damas, plus forwards Nelson and Marinho, the Portuguese have other outstanding performers. It must therefore be Sporting.

Borussia Mönchengladbach v. Glentoran.—The Belfast club are only the second Irish team to have reached the quarter-finals of any European competition, after Linfield arrived at this stage of the Champions Cup 1966-67. But they cannot entertain much hope of further progress. The internal squabbles, following dissatisfaction over bonus payments, have also been responsible for poor performances in the championship.

Borussia are strong favourites to win this trophy for their stars like 'keeper Kleff, defender Vogts, midfielders Danner and Wimmer, plus strikers Heynckes —all in Germany's World Cup squad— are almost guaranteed to bring success against the gallant but clearly out of their depth Irish part-timers.

Magdeburg v. Beroe Stara Zagora.— The winter break will affect these teams less than usual, because their national sides have qualified for the World Cup finals and thus the second half of their national championship will be resumed much earlier. The emergence of East German football as a force at all levels should be confirmed here by Magdeburg, a well drilled, compact and athletic team spearheaded by the prolific striker Jürgen Sparwasser.

Beroe have so far not achieved any startling successes at this stage of a European tournament and although they too have useful goal getters in Petkov and Bonev, they will have done very well to survive this round.

Slipped

AC Milan v. PAOK Salonika.—The Italians who won this trophy already in 1968 and last season, have slipped from grace recently. They were thrashed 6-0 by Ajax in the "Super cup" play-off, whilst in the championship too, the Milanese have been having a lean time. But any team who can rely on the experience of Schnellinger, the thrusts of Benetti, the guile of Rivera and the sharpshooting of Chiarugi must be respected. The Greeks do not appear to be as well equipped, as for instance their compatriots from Olympiakos or Panathinaikos, and thus the odds clearly favour Milan.

In the UEFA-Cup Tottenham and Ipswich are carrying the recent tradition of English clubs, who have won this contest for the past six years. There are two Anglo-German confrontations here, which may well prove crucial to the eventual destination of the trophy.

Cologne v. Tottenham.—Three years ago, in this contest, Cologne eliminated Arsenal, who then went on to win the coveted "double". And the Germans led by World Cup stars like Overath, Weber, Löhr, supported by other internationals like Cullmann and Flohe, appear even stronger now, especially at home.

But "Spurs", the winners of this Cup in 1972 and semi-finalists last season, despite poor home form in the League, are great cup fighters. Star forwards Chivers and Peters, stopper England and the brilliant Jennings in goal, have also been at their best precisely in this tournament.

Ipswich v. Lokomotive Leipzig. — Ipswich have done well on their return to European competition after ten years. Strikers Johnson and Whymark and defenders Mills and that fine prospect Beattie are outstanding, although they appear to have a problem in goal. Leipzig became the first East German side to put out an English team, when they knocked out Wolves previously. With such experienced goal getters like Frenzel and Löwe, and particularly the lethal Hans-Bert Matoul, they will stretch Ipswich if not overcome them.

VfB Stuttgart v. Vitoria Setubal. — The Portuguese have disposed of Leeds and aided by such prolific scorers as the experienced Torres and the Brazilian Duda, they will not be overawed by the Germans. Stuttgart will rely on the sharpshooters Ohlicher and the Austrian Ettmayer, whilst their 3-0 triumph over Dynamo Kiev should be ample warning.

Ruch Chorzow v. Feyenoord. — The Poles are exceptionally strong at home and counting on internationals like Ostafinski, Maszczyk and goal getter Joachim Marks, they can be a match for anybody, as Wuppertal, Carl Zeiss Jena and Honved have found out, beaten 4-1, 3-0 and 5-0 respectively! But Feyenoord, European Cup winners in 1970, appear to have the edge in top level experience, plus superior midfield with Van Hanegem and De Jong.

PAUL WADE — of the BBC's World Se

CAN ZAIRE

ONE of the most powerful men in world football is a slight, distinguished gentleman who must be in his sixties. Quietly spoken and gentle, he has put African football on the world map.

General A. A. Mostafa of Egypt is now a Vice-President of FIFA. From 1958 to 1968 he was President of the African Football Confederation. His country hosts the African Nations Cup finals in March. Eight countries will take part—Egypt, Uganda, Zambia and Ivory Coast (Group A playing in Cairo and Mehalla) plus Congo, Zaire, Mauritius and Guinea (Group B playing in Alexandria and nearby Damanhour).

The world's eyes will be on this tournament to see whether Zaire, the dark horses for the World Cup in June can justify their place. General Mostafa rates Guinea as their greatest threat with Uganda and Egypt next. "They are all good sides, especially in attack. The difference between Africa and Europe is professionalism. We are still all amateurs. I do not believe in amateurism in football. It means that you lack technique and good organisation."

I suggested to him that professionalism was on its way. "We already have top class Africans playing in Europe—players like Eusebio and Salif Keita. This is most valuable. The benefits are beginning to be reaped now. Makloufi, a a great inside forward for St. Etienne is now a coach and looked after the African side that went to Latin America last year."

Justify

But would professionalism get off the ground in Africa? "We must get two or three professional clubs in each country to start with—just as the Europeans once did. The game will develop from there. But the crowds will have to justify professionalism.

"We cannot expect governments to help. Governments do not want pro soccer in Africa. People on Olympic committees do not want it—and many responsible people in Africa are on Olympic committees. Football has a lot of battles with the IOC about professionalism just at tennis players did with the ILTF. But they must accept that football is the World's number one game."

There has been a lot of complaint that Africa and Asia deserved more than one single place each in the World Cup finals. "This is a silly argument.

"We are not yet at the standard of top European countries — or even many ordinary European countries. However, I do think that we could play off with European and Latin American group winners *before* the finals. We could play non-African countries. Then we would know how good we were and have more international experience. But there is also some substance in the idea of having more qualifiers for the Final Rounds—say 20 or 24 countries.

"We in FIFA have had 16 sides for years. There are now 160 associations in the world—not 60 as there used to be." But doesn't this spread the talent too thinly? "Yes, but fair representation is also important. However, time might militate against more than 20. It's bad enough trying to get professional players released for 15 or 16 days now!"

FOOTBALL UNDER SUSPENSION

"THE African player doesn't understand why the door is shut completely. Here is the one thing, not only in Rhodesia, but throughout the world, that he can do better than anyone else. Play the one game that has broken all shades of colour discrimination."

John Madzima, the newly elected president of the National Football Association of Rhodesia was explaining to me the difficulties faced by footballers in his country.

At that moment, the loudspeaker system at the plush Airport Hotel in Frankfurt boomed out a call for "Her Dettmar Cramer". The irony was obvious. Cramer is the FIFA official coach. John Madzima smiled wryly as he continued: "Because Rhodesia is suspended by FIFA we get none of the official coaching aids that we once did. No film strips, no referees' courses—very few matches on TV. But worst of all we cannot entertain national sides, or even club sides. So there is no standard against which we can judge our level of play."

Earlier in the day, General Mostafa from Egypt, a vice-president of FIFA, told me that the African Football Confederation was not against the players of Rhodesia and South Africa—only against their governments who practiced racial discrimination.

John Madzima was in Frankfurt to canvas the FIFA delegates who had gathered not only for the World Cup draw, but also for a week long congress. "You see, Rhodesia gets lumped together with South Africa all the time. But the situation is different in the two

Profession

THE Third Asian Football Confederation coaching school was completed in Iran at the end of 1973. With schools in Japan and Malaysia, the AFC has three regional bases for the Game which are administered from Malaysia. The AFC was set up in 1954 in Hong Kong. There, Mr. Lee Wai Tong acted as the Honorary Secretary of the AFC—an unpaid, voluntary post until he resigned in 1967 to take up duties with FIFA.

The post of President of the Asian Confederation then went to Y.T.M. Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra of Malaysia and Koe Ewe Teik took on the job of secretary. The headquarters of the AFC moved to Penang, where a subsidy from FIFA enabled them to have a full-time office.

Thanks to levies on international matches, funds have increased over the years and the full-time secretary is able to keep things moving smoothly. He needs to, as there is a host of tournaments administered by the Confederation. Apart from the Asian Nations Cup, the Asian Games and the Youth Cup, there are several international events.

In Malaysia there is the Merdeka Cup; in Thailand, the King's Cup; in Vietnam, the Independence Cup and in Korea and Indonesia there are the Presidents' Cups. "You really need two or three national squads," Mr. Lee told me. "If you only had one squad, it would be in action 12 months of the year! But if you have enough talent to support an 'A' and a 'B' squad, you can send them off according to the importance of the tournament.

"Also, more competitions mean more experience for players. However, the standards have been very up and down over recent years. For example, Japan did extremely well to win a bronze medal in the 1968 Mexico Olympics—but they are not reckoned to be much of a power at present. Malaysia and Burma did not win many matches in Munich, but

vice—looks at the emerging Continents

JUSTIFY PLACE?

countries. There is multi-racial soccer in our country."

He waved a 100 page dossier at me. "We are presenting this report to Sir Stanley Rous, and his fellow members on the FIFA executive committee. The situation has changed considerably since Sir Stanley's visit in 1965."

The lynchpin of Mr. Madzima's argument hinges on Article 50 (e) of the FIFA rules. "A National Association may forfeit its membership with the Federation by ceasing to have the real standing of National Football Association in its own country."

Recognised

"The Football Association of Rhodesia is the body recognised by FIFA despite the fact that it is under suspension. However, it is only an executive committee, with no control over the game in Rhodesia. Two recent meetings were abandoned as they failed to make a quorum. They only keep going because they are recognised by FIFA.

"Even Mr. Tessema of Ethiopia, the Chairman of the African Football Confederation, is opposed to Rhodesia's membership of FIFA, until the political situation is regularised. I only hope that he will appreciate the developments that have been brought about in Rhodesia and realises that the majority of players —99.99 per cent of them—recognise the NFA.

"The NFA was formed as a result of the various associations and leagues coming together on an organised, *non-racial* basis. When Sir Stanley Rous came nine years ago, the Africans were not organised. Now they are. The first or Premier Division consists of 22 clubs —21 are African. One is European. The problem with the older FA of Rhodesia is that they demand two requirements for membership.

1. *"that a club should own its own ground and its own clubhouse". This is impossible for Africans as the Land Tenure Act does not permit the purchase of land.*
2. *"that clubs should be in good standing for seven years or more". Most clubs have developed in that time (since Sir Stanley's visit).*

"As few, if any, African clubs could comply with these requirements, the NFA of Rhodesia was setup. It recognises clubs that are properly organised *at the moment*, not five or 10 years ago. Clubs that lease their grounds and clubs that can provide facilities worthy of First Division status are also accepted."

All this supposed strong support for the game, but I did not realise how strong until John Madzima told me about the crowds that watch football.

Average

The league takes place on Sunday's and some clubs attract crowds of 35 to 40,000 with an average attendance of 16-20,000. Not surprisingly Mr. Madzima is happy with this aspect of the game as Rhodesia is a young country with only 6 million inhabitants.

The large towns like Salisbury and Bulawayo run to a quarter of a million, so the crowds are really quite big. Many Africans travel in from the tribal trust lands to watch big games.

● *Continued on page 50*

alism premature

says Asia's Lee Wai Tong

they played up to their capabilities which is important. The gap between us and Latin America and Europe is closing slowly.

"We need more foreign coaches, we must continue to encourage young talent and provide international competition." With development in mind, I asked Mr. Lee if professionalism was on the way. "Only one country in Asia supports pro soccer," he told me. "That's in my home town of Hong Kong.

Standards

"It started two or three years ago and consists of English, Scottish and Australian players. But they have not done much to improve standards. I think professionalism is necessary, but it would be premature to do anything at the moment."

Mention of Australians got us on to the 1974 World Cup. "It is a peculiar situation. Australia used to belong to Oceania, but then it withdrew and applied for membership of the Asian Confederation. We were not in a position to accept Australia as full members—perhaps as associate members. But, at present, they do not belong anywhere!"

Physical

Looking ahead, Mr. Lee wanted to see Asian football become a little more physical, to compete with European and Latin American sides. Only Japan and Korea seem able to produce players who could run for a full 90 minutes. So worried is he that he wants the FIFA Medical Committee to investigate the Asian physique.

"I submitted a query to the FIFA Technical Committee asking why Asians cannot last a full game. Is it the climate? Their diet? Lack of training or even over training? As yet I have had no reply, but I want some of the doctors on the Medical Committee to analyse the defects in our players. Personally, I think it's most important for us to develop our physiques — we are close to other countries with our skill in trapping and shooting and passing. But our major setback is the height of our players, and our lack of awareness when it comes to tactics. That's why we need foreign coaches.

"At present, we have many nationals who coach—ex-players etc. These are all right for schoolboys, youth sides and junior sides but not for national sides. We need the foreign coaches to raise our standards."

WORLD CUP

compiled by J

GROUP ONE

JUNE 14: W. Germany v. Chile ..... Berlin
E. Germany v. Australia ..... Hamburg
JUNE 18: Chile v. E. Germany ..... Berlin
Australia v. W. Germany ..... Hamburg
JUNE 22: Australia v. Chile ..... Berlin
E. Germany v. W. Germany ..... Hamburg

GROUP TWO

JUNE 13: Brazil v. Yugoslavia or Spain ..... Frankfurt
JUNE 14: Zaire v. Scotland ..... Dortmund
JUNE 18: Yugoslavia or Spain v. Zaire ... Gelsenkirchen
Scotland v. Brazil ..... Frankfurt
JUNE 22: Zaire v. Brazil ..... Gelsenkirchen
Scotland v. Yugoslavia or Spain ..... Frankfurt

COUNTRY	ARGENTINA	AUSTRALIA	BRAZIL	BULGARIA	CHILE	E. GERMANY	W. GERMANY	HAI
Qualified	Bolivia (H) 4-0	New Zealand 1-1; 3-3	Qualified	N. Ireland (H) 3-0	Peru (A) 0-2	Finland (H) 5-0	Qualified	Puert (H) 7-
by	Paraguay (A) 1-1	Iraq 3-1; 0-0	as	Cyprus (A) 4-0	Peru (H) 2-0	Albania (H) 2-0	as	Puert (A) 5-
Beating:	Bolivia (A) 1-0	Indonesia 2-1; 6-0	Holders	Portugal (H) 2-1	Peru (N) 2-1	Rumania (A) 0-1	Hosts	N. A (H) 3-
	Paraguay (H) 3-1	Iran (H) 3-0		N. Ireland (A) 0-0	Russia (A) 0-0	Finland (A) 5-1		Trinid 2-1
		Iran (A) 0-2		Portugal (A) 2-2	Russia (H) Not played	Rumania (H) 2-0		Hond 1-0
		S. Korea (H) 0-0		Cyprus (H) 2-0	Walkover	Albania (A) 4-1		Guat 2-1
		S. Korea (A) 2-2						Mexi 0-1
		S. Korea (N) 1-0						
No. of Final Stage Appearances	6th	1st	10th (Record)	4th	5th	1st	8th	1st
World Cup Honours	Runners-up 1930		Winners 1958, 1962, 1970 Runners-up 1950 Third Place 1938		Third Place 1962		Winners 1954 Runners-up 1966 Third Place 1934, 1970 Fourth 1958	
Trainer	Vladislao Cap	Rale Rasic (Yugo.)	Mario Zagalo	Christo Mladenov	Luis Alamos	Georg Buschner	Helmut Schoen	Anto Tassy
Most Capped Player in Squad	Miguel Brindisi Age 23 35 Caps	Ray Baartz Age 26 46 Caps	Jairzinho Age 29 81 Caps	Dimitar Penev Age 28 75 Caps	Francisco Valdez Age 29 50 Caps	Peter Ducke Age 32 60 Caps	Franz Beckenbauer Age 28 73 Caps	Serge Duco Age 65 C
Club	Huracan	Hakoah	Botafogo	CSKA Sofia	Colo-Colo	Carl Zeiss Jena	Bayern Munich	Aigle
Position	Midfield	Forward	Winger	Centre-Back	Midfield	Centre-Forward	Centre-Back	Full-

All previous World Cup Winners have reached the Finals except England (1966).
Players* and ¶ playing abroad in Holland and Brazil respectively.

CHART

JACK ROLLIN WM 74

GROUP THREE

JUNE 15: Uruguay v. Holland ..... Hanover
Sweden v. Bulgaria ..... Dusseldorf
JUNE 19: Holland v. Sweden ..... Dortmund
Bulgaria v. Uruguay ..... Hanover
JUNE 23: Bulgaria v. Holland ..... Dortmund
Sweden v. Uruguay ..... Dusseldorf

GROUP FOUR

JUNE 15: Italy v. Haiti ..... Munich
Poland v. Argentina ..... Stuttgart
JUNE 19: Haiti v. Poland ..... Munich
Argentina v. Italy ..... Stuttgart
JUNE 23: Argentina v. Haiti ..... Munich
Poland v. Italy ..... Stuttgart

	HOLLAND	ITALY	POLAND	SCOTLAND	SWEDEN	URUGUAY	YUGOSLAVIA	ZAIRE
o Rico 0	Norway (H) 9-0	Luxembourg (A) 4-0	Wales (A) 0-2	Denmark (A) 4-1	Hungary (H) 0-0	Colombia (A) 0-0	Spain (A) 2-2	Togo (A) 0-0
o Rico 1	Belgium (A) 0-0	Switzerland (A) 0-0	England (H) 2-0	Denmark (H) 2-0	Austria (A) 0-2	Ecuador (A) 2-1	Greece (H) 1-0	Togo (H) 4-0
tilles 0	Iceland (H) 5-0	Turkey (H) 0-0	Wales (H) 3-0	Czechoslovakia (H) 2-1	Malta (H) 7-0	Colombia (H) 0-1	Spain (H) 0-0	Cameroons (A) 1-0
lad (H)	Iceland (A) 8-1	Turkey (A) 1-0	England (A) 1-1	Czechoslovakia (A) 0-1	Austria (H) 3-2	Ecuador (H) 4-0	Greece (A) 4-2	Cameroons (H) 0-1
uras (H)	Norway (A) 2-1	Luxembourg (H) 5-0			Hungary (A) 3-3		Spain (N) 1-0	Cameroons (N) 2-0
emala (H)	Belgium (H) 0-0	Switzerland (H) 2-0			Malta (A) 2-1			Ghana (A) 0-1
o (H)								Ghana (H) 4-1
								Zambia (A) 2-0
								Zambia (H) 2-1
								Morocco (H) 3-0
								Morocco (A) not played
	3rd	8th	2nd	3rd	6th	7th	6th	1st
		Winners 1934, 1938 Runners-up 1970			Runners-up 1958 Third Place 1950 Fourth 1938	Winners 1930, 1950 Fourth 1954, 1970	Semi-Finalists 1930 Fourth 1962	
e	Rinus Michels	Ferruccio Valcareggi	Kazimierz Gorski	Willie Ormond	Georg Eriksson	Roberto Porta	Miljan Miljanic	Blagoje Vidinic (Yugo.)
	Rinus	Giacinto	Wlodzimierz	Denis	Bjorn	Pedro	Dragan	Kazadi
ste	Israel	Facchetti	Lubanski	Law	Nordqvist	Rocha	Dzajic	Mwamba
9	Age 31	Age 31	Age 26	Age 33	Age 32	Age 30	Age 27	Age 26
ps	43 Caps	71 Caps	67 Caps	52 Caps	71 Caps	76 Caps	70 Caps	44 Caps
Noir	Feyenoord	Inter-Milan	Gornik Zabrze	Man. City	PSV Eindhoven*	Sao Paulo¶	Red Star Bel.	TP Mazembe
Back	Centre-Back	Left-Back	Striker	Striker	Centre-Back	Midfield	Left-Winger	Goalkeeper

Trainers other than Native-born are shown with Country of Origin.

Television — YES or NO?

by Jack Rollin

TV or not TV — that is the vexed question facing the Football League. The rejection by the clubs amounting to a verdict of 28-18 needs to be carefully scrutinised before any firm conclusions are arrived at.

The First and Second Division clubs alone turned down the new, improved offer the TV companies had made by 24 votes to 18. That means that two clubs did not bother to vote, spoilt their ballot papers or were "don't knows" and abstained.

At the earlier meeting of the associate members from the Third and Fourth Division clubs, the voting to decide where to put their four combined votes resulted in another turn down for the TV cameras by the narrow margin of 21-20. Here there were seven abstentions.

Now a quick mathematical calculation will show that had the two abstaining full members decided to vote for Television and the seven associates had swung the associate members verdict for accepting the TV offer it would have been a 24-24 stalemate. So it could have been a good deal closer than the final voting figures indicated.

Edited

That apart, there is no doubt that there have been rumblings of discontent concerning televised soccer. The objectors fear that it is driving away the live fans and the edited version of matches produces another game entirely different from the 90 minute affair seen on grounds. It contains few throw-ins, few goal-kicks and the minimum of midfield play. Everything appears to happen in the respective goalmouths. But unless TV is allowed to show a match in full this is inevitable and not their fault.

Now to the offer itself. It represents £1,000,000 over a three year period which is a 53% increase on the existing one. This means that the two channels are offering £333,000 a season for recorded highlights of League games on Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons. At present the League get £240,000 a season.

This does not cover internationals, F.A. Cup ties, League Cup matches, Texaco Cup games etc., which would probably bring in another £1,000,000 over the same period.

In addition it is estimated that some 20 clubs in the First and Second Divisions receive between £10,000 and £25,000 from advertising at their grounds. This advertising was sold originally in the knowledge that there would be television coverage — not in every particular case but clearly for large sums of money which would not have been obtained without the TV outlet.

This represents around another £1,500,000 over the three year period in question. Hence the figure being bandied about of £3,500,000.

Strangely enough the main objectors to the new offer have come from the First Division clubs who certainly derive the greater financial rewards in the TV deal.

Coverage

The TV companies were also prepared to give £25,000 a year to the Third and Fourth Division clubs over and above this offer because they are the ones who receive less coverage from TV. And the companies also made a gesture in saying they would give them this money for the current season though it had not been contracted.

Apart from the objections already mentioned concerning the over-exposure of the game, the after-match analysis sometimes tends to make refereeing decisions look ill-judged and tackling appear brutal which scarcely helps to improve the game's image. But it can also be argued that if they were not there they could not be shown anyway.

Audience

That said, however, televised football produces a Saturday evening audience of 10,000,000 or more each week on BBC — far more people than could ever be accommodated in grounds assuming they wanted to go there at all. To remove this interest, whether latent or otherwise, would be a bold move to some, an unwise one to others.

Perhaps football would rather have the money than the bother of the cameras. If a newspaper covers a match they send a reporter who normally takes up only a small space in the press box, drinks a couple of scotches after the game and produces his version of what he saw. The same newspaper at some stage in its existence probably alternatively supports or runs the club down, depending on circumstances. But it provides some publicity without being able to give money directly to the club.

If the match is televised, there are yards of cable to be put in, vans to be accommodated in close proximity and some 35 individuals connected with rigging, cameras, engineering and production etc. But the TV companies pay towards the use of the facilities where they site their cameras and if any spectators seats or standing accommodation are taken up, compensation is made to the clubs concerned.

Commission

The clubs often enlist the help of the TV companies when it comes to a disciplinary commission which might need the assistance of film concern a relevant incident involving a player. And this is never usually refused.

If there is to be no football on Saturday evenings or Sunday afternoons next season a number of elderly people and others living in country district will be deprived of seeing the game at all. This would be a tragedy for them, but the wider issues make it clear that both sides have a strong case.

Standards

Television has made a generous offer by any standards. The Football League clubs mindful of the fact that they do not wish to sell themselves completely to Television, want to put the brake on now before the box encroaches any further. And some clubs did not like the ultimatum which appeared to go with the offer. Blank screens cannot ensure full grounds, yet empty stadiums and blanket TV coverage would signal the end of soccer as we know it.

It appears that this stalemate has no solution. But a compromise will clearly be made and will probably end up with a slightly adjusted offer but certainly an increase in cash on the present agreement for much less televised football. This will probably mean BBC showing only one game and ITV one or two.

YUGOSLAVIA IN COLOUR NEXT MONTH

Eric Batty says

FIFA SHOULD ADMIT CHINA

There must be gifted players among 700 million

FOR some time China has been trying to expand their sporting link with the rest of the world. After table tennis they tried football, but following a brief courtship with FIFA, negotiations were broken off because of differences of opinion over Taiwan.

During the period of negotiations the Chinese did venture abroad, playing several games in Africa and Albania. Then FIFA abruptly ended China's bid by circularising all member countries with warnings that they could be suspended and fined for playing against the unaffiliated Chinese.

What we know about the game in China is strictly limited. As far back as 1964 the Chinese supported North Korea in her World Cup bid, providing coaches, guidance and opposition in various forms. Many of North Korea's preparatory matches were played against Chinese clubs and her Army team.

We know, too, that football is popular in China. Attendances at Chinese league matches reach 100,000 in the big cities with "sold out" signs in evidence.

Train and play

Other things we can guess. Like the neighbouring Japanese, the Chinaman in Western minds is short and stocky. But the probabilities are that the average young Chinese male is today several inches taller than his father was at the same age. Those that participate in sports can be expected to have lean, lively bodies and the best of her footballers will have government aid via a good state job that will enable him to train and play with enthusiasm, knowing that his future (long term) is secure.

Professionalism as we know it is out. Strictly impossible. But in the right circumstances State professionalism has produced many fine teams elsewhere so why not China?

My guess about the size and bulk of Chinese players stems from my knowledge of the Japanese. I saw them play, talked with them — and was very impressed. Their team manager at the time, Mr. Shun Okano, explained how it was that contrary to general belief they wouldn't have goalkeepers and centre backs who were big enough to compete with Europeans. These of course are the particularly vulnerable positions for those of short stature.

War-time image

The war-time image of the Japanese was a little man, tending to be tubby and with poor eyesight. That has gone through the window with rising living standards and improved diet. Getting sufficient milk when young, adding meat and fish to their diet which was not long ago dominated by rice has produced a new race of Japanese.

Whatever one thinks about China and her politics it cannot be denied that the average Chinese has benefited from their development as a nation. Only 30 years ago China was still a feudal country with serfs. Now the people eat regularly, have medical attention and with an improved diet they too must have developed like the Japanese.

Dexterity is another quality likely to be widespread in China. Renowned for painting and fragile carvings, manual dexterity must be widespread at least to some degree and at a high level indeed amongst the top artists and craftsmen.

If they can manipulate tiny objects with the hands, this aptitude must be extended to the feet and amongst the population of more than 700 million there must be many millions with gifted hand and feet.

Amongst the youngsters football is certainly popular. It is inconceivable that leagues could flourish with big crowds unless boys played football on a wide scale. Knowing something of the enthusiasm, money and effort that East European teams pour into sport once they've decided on a certain course I would think the Chinese plans are well advanced. If they were not then they would not yet be ready to come out and play with us.

International competition

Feelers were put out long ago for home and away matches with Arsenal. In Peking I feel sure the London club would get more than they bargained for. When they asked to join FIFA that was the Mao-men's signal that they had reached a good standard and recognised that they needed regular international competition with the leading soccer countries. My guess is that this is probably *all* they need to become a power.

And why not? Why should FIFA bar China's path? Why shouldn't an amicable solution be found?

The problem within FIFA revolves around Nationalist China and her Football Association who have been members for years. In practical terms, however, everyone knows that Nationalist China really means the Pacific island of Taiwan.

Korea has two FIFA places; so too does Vietnam . . . and the Germans. It was the Uruguayans that pointed out quite rightly that the United Kingdom (one country) has four FIFA places. Why shouldn't the Chinese be welcomed?

There's a simple way out. So simple that it has probably been overlooked. Let FIFA re-name the FA of Nationalist China. They do not and cannot hope to control and organise the game in China. Short of another world war they never will.

They control and organise the game in Taiwan. Let FIFA re-name her body — the Taiwan FA. On this basis the Chinese FA — the real China, should accept this as the best deal they can get and come and play us.

I think many people would be surprised. I expect the Chinese to be good.

ARTHUR ROTMIL reports from West Germany

Flair for organisation put to test

THE WEST GERMAN Football Federation, which with over three million registered players claims to be the largest in the world, will shortly stage the second most important festival of sport held in this country. After the Olympic Games of 1972, now comes the turn of the soccer World Cup, whose final rounds will take place between June 13 and July 7. But whilst the Olympics were mainly concentrated in one city (Munich), the football series will be spread over nine towns. Thus the acknowledged German flair for organisation and thoroughness will be put to a severe test this summer.

Now that the draw has been made and all 16 contestants having been divided into four groups, know their opponents, the next stage is about to begin. It will consist of preparation for the tournament, mainly by playing friendly internationals. Astonishingly though, West Germany have only five matches left in which to test their candidates for the World Cup squad.

Example

But England, for example, who did not qualify, will play between April 3 and June 5 no fewer than eight internationals! The German fixtures are as follows: February 23, in Madrid, v. Spain; February 26, in Naples v. Italy; March 27, in Frankfurt, v. Scotland; April 17, at home v. Hungary; May 1, at home v. Sweden.

The foundations of the national side have already been laid long ago, so it only remains for manager Helmut Schön to fit in the last pieces to complete his line-up. An interesting experiment was tried by the largest sports publication in Germany, the *Kicker-Sportmagazin*.

The paper invited its readers to select their squad of 22, as if they were in the shoes of the national manager. Nearly 10,000 replies had to be sifted through before the result could be announced. It made interesting reading in as much as the general assessment was not much different to that exhibited by Schön. In goal, the majority of readers preferred Kleff (8478 votes) to Maier (7314), with Nigbur as the number three. Nigbur, incidentally, who has saved no fewer than 10 penalties(!) might have been capped already had he not been playing for Schalke during the club's involvement in the bribery scandals.

The top four defenders, according to the poll, were Breitner (8313 votes), Höttges (7323), Vogts (6952) and Beckenbauer (6825). The best midfield men, Netzer (9256, Overath (8755) and Wimmer (8673). And the strikers would be Müller (9581), Grabowski (8634) and Erwin Kremers (8515). The greatest individual number of votes were cast for Müller.

Support

There was also strong support for Hoeness, who actually "scored" the second highest number of votes with 9374, but was named in midfield as well as a striker. Defender Weber, scheme Flohe and goal-getter Heynckes have also received plenty of votes.

There is little doubt that all these players mentioned will be included in the final party of 22. The fact that the Germans have been declared favourites to win the World Cup by the majority of experts is considered here as a compliment, but at the same time as a burden. Everybody will want to topple the favourite, who will therefore be under pressure especially from their own fans, who have rarely been so critical of their national team as in the past year.

A tremendous wave of emotion swept the whole country at the pairing with East Germany. Thus, for the first time, the full national sides of the two Germanies will clash although not as was hoped, symbolically, in Berlin, but in Hamburg! The amateurs of West Germany have already met the full East German side in the Munich Olympics, but this confrontation the hosts do not count as a full international.

Most experts regard the German group as the easiest of all, and indeed, under normal circumstances, both German teams should get through to the next round at the expense of Chile and Australia.

Engaged

For the time being, the candidates for the national squad are still engaged in the most exciting battles for the *Bundesliga* championship in years. The title holders Bayern, the Cup holders Borussia Mönchengladbach, the surprisingly durable challengers Eintracht Frankfurt, as well as ambitious Fortuna Düsseldorf are obviously going to make it a fight to the very last day which, incidentally, is May 18. Even the Cup final has already been postponed till August 17(!), that is to say until next season, because of the need to start preparations for the World Cup.

Champions Bayern still searching for talent to strengthen their squad, have lately been busy engaging foreign players. Four new men joined their ranks: the Danes Viggo Jensen and Torben Hansen, the Swede Conny Torstensson and the Yugoslav Dusan Jovanovic. But in accordance with the regulations only two foreign players are allowed to be fielded in a match.

Bayern would dearly love to win the European Cup, a trophy which no German club has been able to claim. The nearest to that goal came Eintracht Frankfurt, who in 1960 reached the final (after beating Glasgow Rangers 6-1 and 6-3) but fell to Real Madrid in Glasgow's Hampden Park by 7-3. Bayern's problems remain on the wings, where neither Dürnberger, nor Hoffman, Schneider, Hadewicz or Zobel have managed to fill the vacuum left ever since the departure of Nafziger and Brenninger, some years ago.

The injuries to Kapellman and Breitner have also proved a handicap. Breit-

as the World Cup Finals draw closer and closer

ner has been back since early December, but Kapellmann injured in the international against Austria back in October is still unfit. Better news for Bayern came with the announcement that captain Franz Beckenbauer (28) has extended his contract for another five years till 1979. This means that "Kaiser Franz", who joined Bayern at the age of 13, will also end his career with his local club. Beckenbauer, who was elected Footballer of the Year in 19972, was recently voted fourth in Europe for 1973.

Coveted

Gerd Müller, the first German winner of this coveted poll in 1970, took third place this time. He is still in devastating form, having scored 18 League goals in 20 matches, to top the *Bundesliga* list once again. His most serious challenger is Borussia's Mönchengladbach's sharp - shooter Jupp Heynckes who has also reached Müller's total in the same number of games.

Borussia are, like Bayern, also going strong in a European competition, having reached the quarter-finals of the Cup Winners' Cup. They should have little difficulty in disposing of the brave part-timers from Glentoran Belfast. When the Gladbacher outfit are in top form then they are one of the most exciting teams in Europe to watch. Now that Hans-Jürgen Wittkamp has been reprieved (he was involved in the bribery scandal whilst with Schalke), the Borussia defence will be considerably strengthened in the middle.

Position

His return will allow Berti Vogts to take over in his best position at full-back, leaving Dietmar Danner free for the midfield role. Borussia's problems now consist of pacifying those players who cannot get into the first team, despite putting up great performances.

Another rapidly improving side are FC Cologne, who since the engagement as coach of the famous Yugoslav Tschik Cajkovski have been particularly impressive in the UEFA-Cup. In three home ties Cologne have notched up the goal tally of 12-0! Next opponents are Tottenham, who also appear to have reserved their best displays this season for the UEFA-Cup.

Their clash should produce a couple of exciting ties worthy of a higher ranked competition. Cologne's midfield trio of Flohe, Overath and Simmet is overall probably the best in this country at present. Wolfgang Overath, who is making a determined effort to establish himself once more in the national team —whether Netzer plays or not—will be anxious to show up well, especially in an international tournament.

The same applies to another "old-timer" from Cologne's ranks, the central defender Wolfgang Weber, like Overath, a veteran of the 1966 World Cup and now also fighting for a place in the national squad. Then there is Hannes Löhr, who played for Germany in the Mexico World Cup, plus the rising star all-rounder Bernd Cullmann.

Schwarzenbeck of Bayern Munich and West Germany.

The fourth German team, still in the running for honours in European competition are VfB Stuttgart, who are together with Cologne in the quarter-finals of the UEFA-Cup, and due to meet Vitoria Setubal. WORLD SOCCER readers who may be puzzled as to why in VfB the letter "f" is written small, the explanation is that this prefix reads "Verein für Ballspiele" (Club for ball games, literally), hence it is VfB!

The Stuttgart team have done remarkably well when one considers that no fewer than eight players have left the club during the summer. But manager Hermann Eppenhoff showed a lucky hand in engaging strikers like Hermann Ohlicher (24), who in his first Bundesliga season has already hit 14 goals in 20 games and lies third, only behind Müller and Heynckes, plus Heinz Stickel (24), of whom more will be heard soon. Their other stars include 'keeper Heinze, the Austrian international Ettmayer and the former Bayern winger Brenninger.

SUNDAY

An assessment of the current

I WRITE on the morrow of another limited programme of Sunday football; one which, on the face of it, has been vastly successful. There are pressures and counter pressures. Inevitably, some clubs, some newspapers, see it as the panacea. Some players, on the other hand — such as Millwall's — are less happy, resenting the interference with their Sabbath (or, at least, their day of comparative rest).

Others, again, point out that we have so far had no valid evidence given to us. True, crowds have shot up by an almost geometrical progression at Sunday matches, but these themselves have been played almost in isolation. Thus, Bolton Wanderers have enjoyed the kind of crowds they used to get in the 1950s, when they were a respectable First Division team; precisely because the Manchester United and Cities and Burnleys, who draw away their potential fans, were not in action.

Clairvoyant

One does not have to be clairvoyant to know that the only valid test of Sunday football is to have not one but a series of *complete* League programmes played on a Sunday. Then we should find out quickly enough what was what; whether there was, as its supporters would have us believe, a large, floating population of otherwise uncommitted spectators ready and waiting to flock to games, to kill the massive Puritan boredom of a Sunday afternoon; or whether things would just settle down in the old, Saturday pattern.

Meanwhile, I confess that I see certain dangers. First, I must confess a double interest. I am the Football Correspondent of a Sunday newspaper, and I still run and play for a little Sunday football club. *Parti pris*, indeed. Yet I feel one can still query the principle of Sunday football from a decent, objective position.

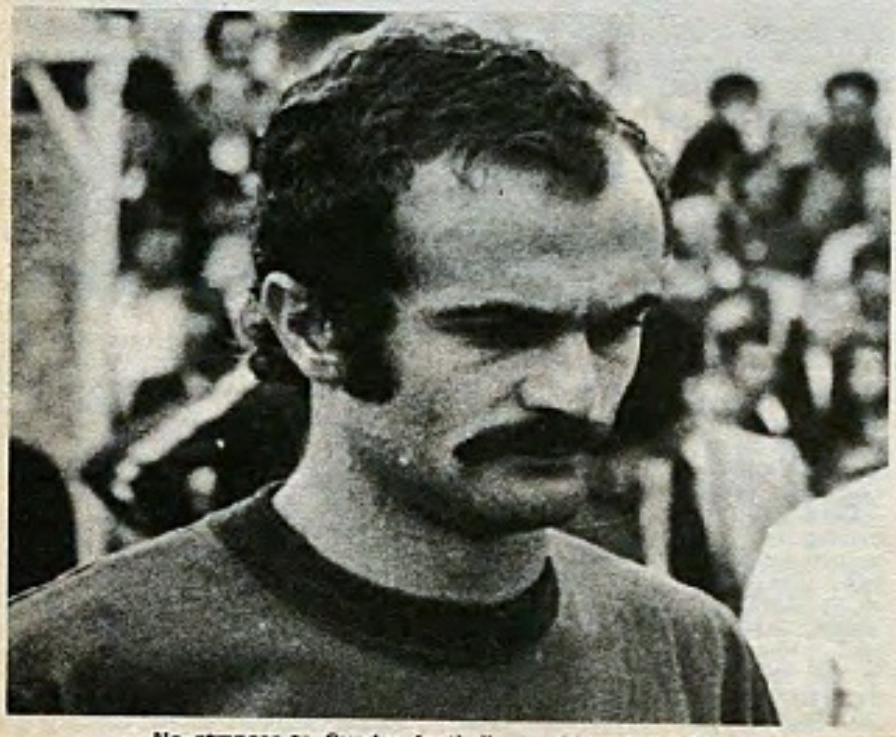
Restricted

A football programme restricted wholly to Sundays would cost the professional game an immense amount of publicity in the Sunday newspapers. So long as football is a Saturday game, their sports pages will continue to be dominated by it. Soccer reports constitute a form of news; one of the few forms, indeed, which Sunday newspapers are heir to. Their problems of production and distribution have always led to the largest emphasis being placed on features, analysis and, in the case of the more lurid populars, sheer scandal. Television has whittled away even at the news value of Sunday football reports, but it still exists.

I believe that the Sunday newspapers would ride the punch comfortably enough, were football switched to Sunday; that their circulation would not diminish noticeably; though their football staffs might feel the cold wind. "How would you feel about writing previews every week?" a cynical colleague — inevitably from a daily paper! — asked me.

My reply was that I wouldn't feel happy at all; but I believe that soccer, in the long run, would be less happy still. I have had occasion in the recent past to write in these pages about deteriorating relations between football and the Press. Football has never realised or appreciated what it owes to the Press, what it gains from the Press; and what it would lose without the Press. There is no cause to believe they would be any more realistic about the question in the context of Sunday football than they have ever been previously; but they would be well advised to remember the point.

Now, to the matter of junior football, and particularly Sunday football. The dilemma sprouts large and formidable horns here, for it is a question of reconciling conflicting interests, each of which has a valid case and a right to be heard. It seems to me that the clubs which need Sunday football are essentially the less successful clubs; which have been, by and large so far, the very ones which have resorted to it.



No stranger to Sunday football . . . Mazzola of Italy.

Benefit

Bolton, as I have shown, can only benefit from playing at a time when the giants of the land are slumbering over their Sunday lunch, and the same thing holds good to lesser fry all over England; from Workington (who seem more or less beyond salvation) through to Orient, who deserve so much more support than they ever get.

Yet a staggered Sunday programme could play havoc with Sunday football, which has increased and multiplied enormously over the past ten years. London, Birmingham, the Liverpool and Manchester areas and many others beside have seen an immense proliferation of Sunday play. In the South and West London area, such leagues as the Sportsman's and West London League have an infinity of divisions, and appear to be growing all the time.

The pattern, by and large, tends to be for Sunday players to play on Sundays PRECISELY BECAUSE THEY WANT TO WATCH ON SATURDAYS. Make it both a Saturday *and* Sunday game, as the clubs seem to be doing at the moment, and where would the Sunday footballers be?

Let me be quite clear on the matter; the problem will ultimately be just as much that of the League clubs as the

FOOTBALL

trend by BRIAN GLANVILLE

Sunday footballers. For while many may prefer to foresake their own teams to follow professional clubs, many more will prefer to go on playing Sunday football, and will thus be lost to the terraces of the professional sides.

All these considerations lead me to believe that Alan Hardaker is right to have refused to jump one way or the other for the moment. We simply do not possess adequate information on which to build a judgment; a situation exacerbated by such factors as the power crisis and the three day week, which were what brought about the move to Sunday play in the first place.

Argument

The fact that people *do* get bored on Sundays must be a strong argument in favour of those who want Sunday football. On the other hand, the fact that professional footballers want their Sundays free, and free to relax on, is perhaps more important still. A Saturday on which they did not play would scarcely be the same, for it would be spent in travel and preparation, with no chance at all to relax in the bosom of the family.

It is also important to examine and make comparisons with what is happening abroad. In West Germany, the *Bundesliga* programme has for some time now been played on Saturday, not Sunday. In Italy, there is a considerable movement towards Saturday football. Last season, it was in fact tried, though without great success, on a Christmas Saturday; hardly, as its exponents pointed out, the best Saturday to have chosen.

Suspended

Meanwhile, the Italians have taken to playing their important international matches on a Saturday rather than a Sunday, the League programme being in the meantime suspended.

The danger is that British football will clutch at the straw of Sunday football, at a time when it should be having a much more radical consideration of what is wrong with its ancient, rickety structure. It is only too possible and plausible that Sunday football, with its novelty, would allow the leaking ship of the Football League to sail on for a few more seasons with all its profound structural faults, only to ship water more disastrously than ever when the novelty had worn off.

For the moment, you must place me with Bob Lord and the Millwall players as an opponent of the Sunday game; though I can quite understand why Bolton Wanderers want it.

Alan Hudson . . . played for Stoke City against his old club Chelsea on a Sunday.

Scotland can upset Yugoslavia

by Alex Gordon

THE hopes and prayers of Scottish team manager Willie Ormond for Spain to win through to Scotland's World Cup section in West Germany were shattered by a scrambled Yugoslavian goal in Frankfurt last month.

The Scots boss—like most of his players and the fans — wanted the Spanish to join Scotland, Brazil and Zaire in Munich, but the man who has now made this section even tougher is giant centre-back Katalinski, one of the Slav teams most polished performers against Spain in their play-off in Frankfurt.

Katalinski left his defensive role to join the attack as a free-kick was being prepared on the right wing. And it was in this situation he proved he could score goals just as well as prevent them. He towered high above the hesitant Spanish defence as the ball came over and nodded it powerfully for goal. Jose Iribar managed to block it, but the big Slav followed up to put it over the line.

Speculation

It was in this fatal moment—the 13th minute of the match—that ended all the speculation and Ormond, along with the 'spies' from Brazil and Zaire at this match, must realise that Yugolavia will be no easy hurdle in Munich.

Scotland were solidly behind Spain mainly because it was thought we could hustle them out of their stride and make them crack under extreme pressure. But in the World Cup there is no such thing as an easy touch (remember North Korea!) and the collision with Yugoslavia in Frankfurt on June 22 could well decide if Scotland will make further progress in this treasured trophy.

Ormond's men should beat Zaire in Dortmund on June 14 and anything can happen against Brazil in Frankfurt on June 18, but it now looks as though the Slave game will be the big decider.

Yugoslav teams are second to none in the art of possession soccer and they also know how to handle themselves when the going gets hectic. I am positive that such players as Tommy Hutchison, Kenny Dalglish and Willie Morgan will be invaluable in this particular clash.

Torture

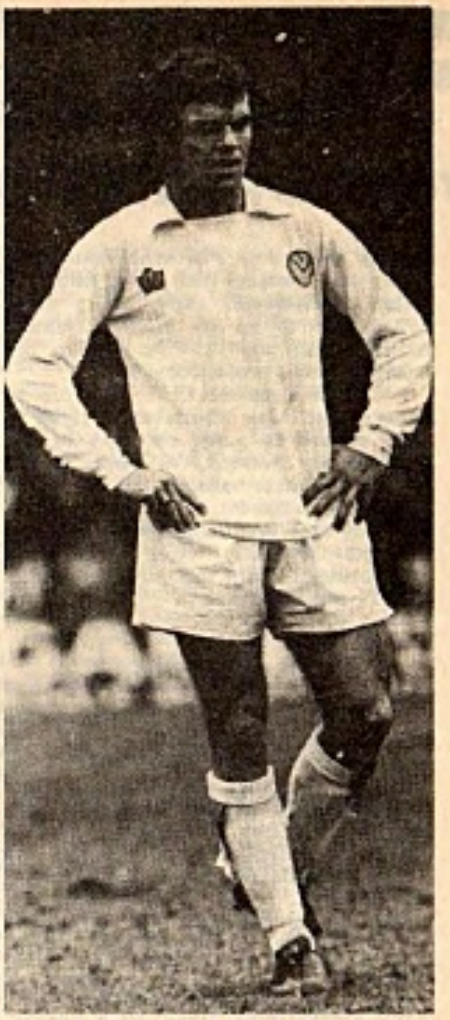
These are the sort of players who can take the Slavs on at their own game. They can tease, torture and torment . . . they can win the ball on the flanks and in midfield . . . and they can keep the Slav midfield men under pressure. Slav teams don't have a particularly good record against Scottish sides at either international or club level.

In fact, four years ago Red Star Belgrade, then tipped as the dark horses for the European Cup, visited Celtic in the quarter-finals of the trophy boasting many of the players—Dzajic, Acimovic, etc.—who are in the current international side and were hammered completely out of sight by 5-1!

Variations

I realise that this match will have no bearing on the game in Frankfurt, but it is still unlikely that the Slav team will have many variations from the one which played at Parkhead. They played in the typical Yugoslav fashion of trying to calm things down, make the ball do all the work in an effort to frustrate the opposition into mistakes.

This is what the Slavs are best at and I don't think they will change this policy in West Germany. Celtic pulverised Red Star simply by harrying and running at their defence at every opportunity. They used the flanks to great advantage and spread the Slav midfield right across the park where they were unable to find each other the way they would have liked.



Joe Jordan of Leeds Unted and Scotland.

Disappointment

They were forced to try something different and just could not do it. Dzajic was a big disappointment that night and although he had a superb match at Wembley two seasons ago I don't think the Scots will be too bothered about his skills. Players such as Danny McGrain and Sandy Jardine at the back of the defence have met and mastered some of the finest ball artists in the world and I'm sure Willie Ormond has every confidence in them being able to do the same against Slav attackers such as Dzajic.

Scotland really couldn't have been drawn in a tougher section. In eight short days they will have to vary their methods three times against three completely different sides. There are the skills of Brazil, the frustrating control

LEIF ERIKSSON of Nice and Sweden

answers the questions of Gregory Tesser

BRAZIL WILL NEED TALENT

QUESTION: *When the World Cup Finals finally start, the Brazilian squad will have been training together for many months. Do you think this is fair as far as the other countries are concerned?*

ANSWER: **If it were being played in a South American country I would have said no, of course it isn't fair! But as it is, I think the Brazilians will need all the talent they possess so that they can overcome the tremendous climatic differences without too much damage to their side.**

In 1970, the match between Uruguay and Sweden caused quite an uproar when rumours were circulated that the Brazilian referee Moraes had to be replaced because of bribery allegations. How did it affect Sweden's performance in the match?

It was disgraceful. The Uruguayans denied the rumours violently, and they played the whole match under protest, but the harm was done, and I think I speak for the whole team when I say that we lost the confidence we had built up prior to the match.

The Swedish squad is mainly composed of exiled footballers like yourself and amateur footballers — J. Olsson and K. Carlsson for example. Do you think such a team has a fair chance of winning the World Cup?

If you think we haven't got a chance, let's go back to the 1958 World Cup. Almost the whole team was composed of exiled or ex-amateur footballers.

Julli Gustavson from Italy, Kurt Hamrin, the ex-amateur footballer Nacka Skoglund and Nils Liedholm, just to mention a few. Yet we still managed to reach the Final.

You have been described by several leading European journalists as the man behind Nice's recent climb to the top of the French First Division. Do you agree with this statement?

In France, the journalists have tended to be less complimentary! I am regularly being criticised for a lack of consistency, but I am not the sort of man who worries unduly about adverse reporting.

As for Nice's recent good fortune, I'd like to think that I'm the man behind it, but the credit must go to the whole team. After all soccer is a team game!

You have been left out of the Swedish squad for quite a few months now. Does this mean you will not be playing in Munich?

I think it is Mr. Georg Ericsson's intention to try to use as many non-exiled players as he can, and for the rest to be selected from such countries as Germany and Holland.

Obviously Swedish players playing in Germany and Holland must have learnt a great deal about the tactics and suchlike of the leading sides in both countries, and undoubtedly they will be key players for Sweden in Munich.

Now that the ban on foreign footballers has been lifted in several countries, what keeps you in France?

For one thing the climate is to my liking. But the main reason is that I love France. At Nice I have found the life I wanted.

Our club president, Mr. Roger Loeuillet, has always shown great faith in me, and I would do anything for the club. In return I get the luxuries that in Sweden I could only dream about.

You see in Sweden we are either amateurs or semi-professionals and that means outside football, we've got a job to go to. In Sweden I worked eight hours a day at my job and only trained twice a week.

At Nice I have time to enjoy the company of my children, Mats and Bjorne. I love gambling, too, and I must say that here footballers are spoilt.

At 30, is there anything else you would like to achieve before you hang up your boots?

There are so many things I would still like to achieve! But let's wait and see what happens in Munich. Even though I am now 30 years old, I feel I am playing better than ever before.

And the time when I have to hang up my boots, as you put it, seems a long way away!

● *Continued from previous page*

of the Slavs and the unknown qualities of eager Zaire. Ormond will select his final travelling pool with utmost caution in an effort to ensure he has players to cover all emergencies.

Orthodox

He will need players such as Peter Lorimer against Brazil. Lorimer's unorthodox style of running with the ball may not be as spectacular as Pele, but there is nothing to beat the Leeds man when he has had the ball teed up for him anywhere within 35 yards of the goal. It is in this zone that Peter can frighten the life out of goalkeepers and although Leoa, who is likely to be Brazil's No. 1 in West Germany, has proved himself a vast improvement on the jittery Felix, it is still doubtful if he is good enough to handle a screaming, hurtling drive from Lorimer!

As I said before, Morgan, Dalglish and Hutchison could be the men to knock the Slavs out of their stride and against Zaire it is just possible that Ormond will field players such as Hearts' non-stop striker Donald Ford. This would guard against any complacency in the Scottish camp and the wily Ford would certainly give his all in any game for his country.

One thing, though, that could hit Scotland hopes may happen even before they reach West Germany in June! I'm thinking of the plight Manchester United find themselves in at the moment. There seems every chance that they will fail to beat the trap-door leading to the English Second Division and with such a large number of Old Trafford Scots in the World Cup pool it would be no surprise if their confidence was at its lowest.

Giant-size

Jim Holton, Willie Morgan and Lou Macari would have to forget completely about club and think only of country if the relegation situation arises. That would take a giant-size slice of man power, but I am certain Willie Ormond will not select any players for Scotland it they are not mentaly attuned.

Scotland have played Yugoslavia three times and we are still undefeated . . . I'm keeping my fingers crossed that we don't lose that record in West Germany!

Eric Weil assesses Chile's chances in the World Cup

Strength is in mid-field

CHILE has two problems for the coming World Cup finals. One is the draw which their officials consider has made things quite difficult for them as they meet two teams—East and West Germany—who will be playing virtually at home. Such a situation has probably not faced any team in previous World Cup finals.

The other problem is that many of their star players—which they will want to call up for their World Cup squad—are now playing abroad. The latest to go (to Spain) is their star forward Carlos Caszelly. Although, according to contracts, he and other exported players must be made available for the national team, it isn't quite the same as having the whole squad at home.

Nevertheless, Chile must not be under-estimated. Last year they surprised South America by ousting favoured Peru from the World Cup after a play-off. Then they surprised Europe by holding the USSR to a 0-0 draw in Moscow.

Reserves

The entire first eleven and several reserves of Colo Colo, the current First Division champions, are in the present World Cup squad. This is because Colo Colo is Chile's most popular and best supported club—which gives them comparative wealth, enabling them to buy up all the best players from provincial clubs. The national team coach, Luis Alamos, is also Colo Colo's coach.

Alamos, a quiet man who knows a lot about soccer, was assistant to Fernando Riera who guided Chile to their best ever World Cup performance—third place in 1962 in their own country. So there's not a lot of difference between Colo Colo and the national team.

The Chilean champions are a good team with a lot of attacking flair. They reached the final of the South American Cup against Argentina's Independiente. The latter won in a third game play-off, but most people agreed that Colo Colo played the better soccer. On the way Colo Colo had eliminated Botafogo (Brazil), another good soccer playing side who had been Cup favourites.

Alamos built the basis of his national team on his club side. Colo Colo's weakest spot — the defence — was well plugged by Jaun Rodrigutz and Antonio Quintano, two excellent centre-backs who are currently hitting the headlines in Mexican football, and Elias Figueros, now playing in Brazil. Alamos is still trying to complete his four-man back line. Present favourite is Colo Colo's Mario Galindo.

The team's strength is in the half-line and attack. Half Francisco "Chamaco" Valdez is the motor — a neat, clever player with a lot of soccer sense who puts order among his team mates. The other first choice is Carlos Reynoso, a complete player who is considered to be one of the best currently playing in the Mexican League.

Tactics

But, depending on the opposition and the tactics to be used, Alamos also has other excellent and experienced halves in defensive Guillermo Paez or offensive Sergio Messen and Guillermo Veliz to play either a 4-3-3 or 4-2-4 formation. Messen and Veliz are really forwards, while Valdez has also played up front.

Chile has a neat, ordered mid-field set-up. Their habit is to come out of defenc playing the ball—with Valdez, who drops back when necessary, being the link man. Chile does not waste too much time crossing the ball, but always has the opposing goal in sight—which makes them different from many South American teams.

Valdez's long, well-directed passes and shots often manage to surprise opposing defence and the team's passing and ball control has a lot of the Brazilian style about it.

Styles

The attack generally lines up with Carlos Caszelly, Sergio Ahumada and Leonardo Veliz, while Julio Chrisosto, Guillermo Muñoz and Fernando Osorio are the stand-bys. But the changes don't alter the styles—which is to reach the opposing goal playing the ball.

Caszelly is the danger man, but his constant movement, speed and opportune passing make him a difficult man to mark. Ahumada, a strong fearless fighter and excellent dribbler, has a great eye for goal. When Caszelly draws the defence, Ahumada gets the goals.

Ahumada's understanding with club-mate Caszelly is excellent and, of course, team work is one of Chile's strong points because most of the players are from the same club.

But Chile can also play the kick-and-run game when necessary. Fast winger Veliz and Caszelly are experts at it. When defending, Valdez and Paez fall back to their defence line, the forwards come down and Chile can be dangerous in counter attacks—generally based on the long precission passes from Valdez.

Chile generally attack with six men and sometimes defender Galindo joins in as well. Caszelly is most dangerous when coming in diagonally from the right. But the real problem for opposing defences is that there are too many dangerous forwards to mark and they change position expertly. When a defence closes up, there are always the dangerous long-range shots of Valdez and Reynoso to contend with.

Goalkeeper Moff, Rodriguez, Quintano, Reynoso, Veliz and Valdez of the probable first eleven played in the last World Cup. The average age of this probable first team line-up is 25—with Valdez the veteran at 30. Chile has just about the right blend of age and experience for the World Cup finals.

. . . and the others

BRAZIL, as usual, had their entire programme mapped out a long time ago —where they will stay in Germany (first at the secluded German Ski Federation school on top of a mountain in the Black Forrest, then as exclusive guests at a hotel in the mountains near Frankfurt where they play their group games), where they will train and who they will play prior to the World Cup.

Brazil already has the basis of a squad, but their final 22 will be picked at the end of February when the long 1973 national championship finishes. There will then be no further league soccer in Brazil until after the World Cup. The national team will be the No. 1 priority for the next four months.

The Chilean forwards kick off to score a symbolic goal "against Russia" at Santiago's National Stadium. Chile then played Santos of Brazil and lost 5-0.

From March 31 onwards Brazil will play nine international matches at home against Mexico (31/3), Portugal (7/4), USSR (14/4), Romania (17/4), West Germany (21/4), Ireland (28/4), Austria (1/5), Peru (5/5) and Paraguay (12/5).

Brazil wants Pele back in their team for the World Cup, but there seems to be no way of convincing him. A delegation from the Brazilian Sports Confederation tried and failed. Joao Havelange, its president, said the return of Pele would be the best Xmas present he has ever had. But while all Brazil insists that Pele must come back, the soccer king—who says he will retire completely from soccer when his contract with Santos expires in November—insists just as strongly that he will not wear Brazil's colours again.

URUGUAY has named a new national team coach — Roberto Porta who has been coaching First Division club Cerro last season. Now they need a team. A number of the players who took Uruguay through a comparatively easy preliminary group have been sold to foreign clubs, but in any case that squad is not considered good enough for the World Cup finals.

At press time Uruguay was in the process of picking a squad and it was expected that they would call on numerous players with foreign clubs. The question was if and how soon such players will be at the disposal of the new coach.

ARGENTINA also have a new coach —39-year-old Vladislao Cap whom the Argentine FA brought back from Columbia (where he had been coaching Deportivo Cali) to take over from Omar Sivori whose contract was not renewed at the end of last year in spite of his having taken Argentina to the World Cup finals. Argentina also feel that the team which won the preliminary group is not good enough for the finals.

Cap, who formerly played for Racing, River Plate and Huracan, has chosen as his assistant Osvaldo Zubeldfa, former coach to the national team and Estudiantes de La Plata with whom he won the South American Cup three years running and the "world club title" once (against Manchester United in 1968).

Cap, a former half-back, favours attack and intends starting training towards the end of January with 15 players to "avoid continual changes". He will then watch league games—the championship was due to start on February 3 already—to increase the squad and will not hesitate to call on Argentine players with foreign clubs if necessary.

Talch, the general of defending champions San Lorenzo in Argentina, scores against River Plate during a game in the four-team National Championship play-off.

South American League Review by ERIC WEIL

Solari (on the ground) after scoring Rosario Central's first goal against Atlanta in an Argentinian Championship play-off game.

River Plate pipped again but it's their own fault...

THIS can perhaps only happen in Argentina!

River Plate is the Argentine soccer club with easily the best playing record since professional soccer started here in 1930. During the first 27 years of professional soccer they won the First Division title twelve times—and that still hasn't been bettered by any other club—but since then (1957) they have been unable to add to their conquests.

However, River Plate has not been out of the limelight. During the 16 years since their last title win they have nearly always been in the championship fight until the last and finished second in either the First Division or National Championship (both in 1969) on eleven occasions. In two seasons—1968 and 1970—it was only goal average which kept them from the title.

Is it bad luck? Is it a hoodoo? Or what is it?

Earlier in the season, when they transferred Oscar Mas to a Spanish club, they sold a large slice of their luck because Mas had been a real match winner—famous for his late goals and never-say-die spirit. In the National Championship which just finished, River Plate were once again runners-up and one of those late match winners by Mas might have made all the difference.

River Plate's vital match in the four-team title play-off was in Rosario where they lost 3-1 to the new national champions Rosario Central. But on that day River Plate players were haggling over money in Buenos Aires and were only rushed to Rosario at the very last moment.

Final round

Did this affect the team's performance in the evening? I believe it did. They certainly played worse in that match than in the other two final round games against San Lorenzo and Atlanta. Even a draw that day would have given River Plate a second chance in a play-off against Rosario Central.

The events that day were tragi-comic. The players had signed contracts for two play-off games (as in previous seasons) and wanted them altered to cover three games, upping bonuses. On the same day of the match they decided not to play unless their demands were met.

The players may have been right, but the moment was wrong. A new board was being elected at the time.

Club president Julio Kent refused the players' requests and sent an amateur team to play in Rosario. Then a new member of the board—who hadn't even taken his seat yet—negotiated a settlement with the professionals and took them to Rosario at the last moment.

So on that night River Plate had two teams and two "presidents" in Rosario, but they lost the game and with it the championship.

What about these final round games. They were poor as most of the rest of the championship had been. Title winners Rosario Central were the most adventurous of the four teams.

FINAL STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rosario Central	3	2	1	–	6	3	5
River Plate	3	1	1	1	6	7	3
San Lorenzo	3	–	2	1	3	4	2
Atlanta	3	–	2	1	3	4	2

BRAZIL

DEFENDING national champions Palmeiras of Sao Paulo, who went through their first 22 games of this season's championship without defeat—at one stage they played 10 games without a goal against them—then lost their last two games to Sao Paulo (2-1) and Gremio de Porta Alegre (1-0), but finished the first phase of the 40 club tournament with a two-point lead over Gremio.

At press time the second phase has just started—with the top 20 teams split in two groups. The top of each group will then play off for the 1973 title, but this will not be decided until the end of February.

PARAGUAY

CERRO Porteño—as reported in an earlier issue of WORLD SOCCER—withdrew from the league championship because they felt referees were biased against them—relented and went on to retain their title.

Final First Division placings were:—1) Cerro Porteño 51 pts., 2) Olimpia 48, 3) Guarani 39, 4) Libertad 37, 5) Sol de Mayo 35, 6) River Plate 34, 7) Nacional 33, 8) General Caballero 24, 9) Sportivo Luqueño 23.

OTHER CHAMPIONSHIPS

PERU—Final placings (of top six who played extra round): 1) Defensor Lima 51 pts., 2) Sporting Cristal 50, 3) Universitario 49, 4) Alianza Lima 47, 5) Deportivo Municipal 46, 6) Melgar 44.

CHILE—First Division (7 games to go—Colo Colo have more pending: 1) Union Española 44 pts., 2) O'Higgins 36, 3) Huachipato 34, 4) Colo Colo 33, 5) Concepción, Magallanes 32, 7) Antofagasta, Green Cross, La Serena 31, 10) Union Calera 27, 11) Wanderers, Rangers 25, 13) Universidad de Chile, Lota Schwager 22, 11) Palestino 20, 16) Naval 19, 17) Universidad Catolica 18, 18) San Felipe 12.

COLUMBIA—First Division (final): 1) Nacional, 2) Millionarios.

BOLIVIA—National Championship (final): 1) Wilsterman, 2) Municipal.

BREATH OF FRESH AIR

AT last a breath of fresh air is blowing through Hungarian football. The Ministry of Sport (O.T.H.S.) has reconstructed the hierarchy of authority to introduce measures which in time would re-shape the game.

One has to realise that this once premier footballing power has failed to qualify for two consecutive World Cup Finals ('70, '74), finished fourth in the European Championship, lost the Olympic crown, and didn't win a single full international match in 1973.

Under the Presidency of sports journalist Istvan Kutas, the 26-strong executive includes "professionals" from all walks of football life. Top administrator Sandor Bares, Vice President of the NEFA is a member, so is Karoly Sos, ex-national team manager, Jozsef Bozsik, the most capped Hungarian footballer, Gyorgy Szepesi, the brilliant and popular radio commentator, Gusztav Szebes, chief architect of the golden team of the fifties, leading coaches Illovszky, Baroti etc., and ex-referee Istvan Zsolt.

Presidium

This presidium has formed several sub-committees under the chairmanship of experts. Coaching — Lajos Baroti. Youth and Under-23 football — Tibor Tamas. Refereeing — Istvan Zsolt. Financial matters — Dr. Vilmos Garai. International football — Gyorgy Szepesi. Public relations — Jozsef Hoffer. Registration and transfer of players — Robert Golias. Medical supervision — Dr. Nandor Arky. Disciplinary Committee — Dr. Jozsef Szilagyi.

I welcome the move, because in these times of impending gloom and crisis, they need all the available talent and expertise at their disposal. Indeed, this formula could be usefully adapted elsewhere. It is about time that football — on the highest level that is — was taken out of the fumbling hands of the amateurs, bureaucrats and retired businessmen.

Regime

As the new regime only took office a few days ago, no revolutionary changes can yet be reasonably expected. But they have already announced the streamlining of the national championships from the '74-'75 season onwards. The First Division of 20 teams, and three regional Third Divisions of 20 teams each.

At present, 226 clubs are playing in the various national leagues, and the pyramid has become unwieldy, the foundations rocky. As from next season there will be only 116 teams with the proud tag "N.B. Club" (National Championship). The value of this status will obviously be enhanced, and players (and coaches!) will work harder both inside and outside the structure.

> • They need all the talent at their disposal •

News from Hungary by LESLIE VERNON

Smaller clubs will also consider the possibility of amalgamation, and fewer teams playing a better standard of football could contribute to a general improvement.

Results

That improvement is needed cannot be doubted when one looks at the pre-season results of the clubs. Dozsa beat UTA in Rumania 2-1, but could only draw with Second Division Bihor and later with the Spanish club Zaragoza 2-2. Vasas were beaten by Velez in Yugoslavia 3-0, and Pecs were humiliated in E. Germany where the national eleven defeated them 6-1. Tatabanya have played twice in Yugoslavia — v. Novi Sad 1-4, v. Vojvodina 1-3!

Not exactly encouraging results, although one mustn't pay too much attention to these warm-up friendlies. In any case, the championship opened a week earlier than planned, to give Ujpest Dozsa more match practice before the Spartak Trnava tie.

The European Champions Cup is the last important target left for the Hungarians this season, and it is fully realised that the lilac-and-whites' progress could have enormous effect on morale and league attendances. The champions are planning meticulously for the clash, and their new coach, Pal Varhidi, has decided to play Nosko at left full-back in place of the injured Peter Juhasz, and use Laszlo Nagy as a central striker. But Nagy, of course, is still in competition with veteran Antal Dunai for the No. 10 shirt.

Otherwise the team is settled, with young Kolar established at right full-back. Honved have been working hard under Lajos Farago, the ex-international goal-keeper who took over permanently from Dodo Meszaros. Sadly, the latter has had a period of serious illness, and has been advised to give up coaching. He'll be working for the club in an administrative capacity, and will also act as scout for new players.

National

Ferencvaros had a highly successful tour in Australia, where they also played twice against the World Cup finalist national side. The green-and-whites won the first match 2-1 at Adelaide, with both goals scored by Mate. Young defender Eipel beat his own goalkeeper for the Aussies' consolation goal. The second game ended in a goalless draw, and according to the Fradi lads, Australia won't pull up any trees in W. Germany next summer.

During the tour, Florian Albert was approached by the management of the St. George-Budapest club in Sydney, and was offered a two years contract as player-manager. Flori grabbed the opportunity, permission was granted by the authorities and his club, and the 74-times capped forward will move to Australia shortly.

Gesture

This is yet another praiseworthy gesture by the Hungarian F.A. By giving all the players — who deserve it! — opportunities to earn good money abroad, they are providing an incentive for the younger ones at home.

I have often been told by Hungarian footballers that there is no point in "working themselves to death", because there is no tangible reward at the end of their careers.

I have no doubt that Albert is the most envied footballer in Budapest today. But the players know that if they do just half as much for Hungarian football as Flori did, they will also be allowed to cash-in later in their early 30's.

News from France by ANDRE DUCLOS

Paris FC scoop Austrian Schilcher

ONE thing you must say for Paris F.C. in their anxiety to establish themselves in our sceptical capital, they are not afraid to put their hands in their pockets and spend. Their latest distinguished acquisition is the Austrian stopper, Hans Schilcher, who has spent a couple of seasons as what one might call a reserve de luxe—a common category these days—with Ajax Amsterdam.

Alas for the amiable Schilcher, whose first child, Mikis, was born hard on the heels of his and his wife's arrival in France, his debut at the Parc des Princes was ill starred. There were 37,696 spectators—a splendid crowd again—to see the match against the League leaders, Saint Etienne; and Paris lost to a penalty conceded by poor Schilcher!

After 58 minutes, Schilcher handled a centre by Lopez. Did he mean to do so or did he, as he afterwards insisted, merely have his hand struck by the ball? Alas for Schilcher and for Paris, the referee gave a penalty, and Saint Etienne scored; the solitary goal of the game.

It was in fact Schilcher's second game, and he went through a baptism of fire indeed; for his debut was made against Nantes, perhaps the best all round side in France this season. He thought Nantes a much better attacking team than Saint Etienne, but Saint Etienne considerably better in defence, where the big Yugoslav goalkeeper, Curkovic, is such a source of strength. He also felt the Saint Etienne midfield of Larque, Synaeghel and Revelli was "more solid, much more complete" than Nantes.

Distinguished stopper

Parisians are already reminded of another distinguished Austrian stopper, Ernst Happel, who played for Racing Club de Paris and later, as we know, became the successful manager of Feyenoord, who later, as we know, became the successful manager of Feyenoord, who won the European Cup under his aegis. Schilcher has the same calm certainty, and he plays the ball well when he has won or intercepted it. Tall and powerfully built, weighing over thirteen stone, Schilcher already seems to have given the Parisian defence a confidence it never had before, and such players as Edouard Kula are showing the benefits. From Graz to Paris, via Amsterdam. A European experience indeed, and one which could be of great value to the aspiring Paris. Meanwhile, that 37,000 crowd shows once again what riches and successes are to be won; with steady success!

Saint Etienne that afternoon had two defenders on the wings: Piazza, the Argentinian international stopper, and Repellini, a full-back who did, in fact, play on the left wing for the French junior team. This was less a tactical move on the part of the red-haired young Saint Etienne manager, Roby Herbin, as a necessary resort; both his recognised wingers, Sartamagna and Bereta, were injured. The two converted defenders had a few sorties down the flanks, not without some degree of effectiveness, but obviously couldn't show the pace and parlour tricks of true wingers.

Pair of wingers

What is encouraging, meanwhile, is that so many French teams are using a pair of wingers; though the more cynical might say that this merely underlines our backwardness, our underdeveloped status, as members of the European (footballing) community! Thus, Marseille have Roger Magnusson, the Swede, flying high again after that anxious period when he couldn't hold a place in the side and was even contemplating naturalisation, and Kuzowski, Paris use Louis Floch and Dollamore, Nimes Mathieu and Kanyan, Reims Richar and the Argentinian, Pena.

I don't think our football is any poorer to watch as a result, and there is no doubt that much of Nantes' effectiveness derives from the wing play of Blanchet, on the right, and the big German, Maas, on the left. Saint Etienne's Revelli brothers, Patrick and the experienced international Herve, who rejoined the club from Nice this season, are particularly eager and well equipped to exploit good centres, advancing together when their team attacks, one in line with the left hand goalpost, the other the right, waiting for the ball to come over.

The lack of wingers can cost you dear; as the manager of Nimes, Kader Firoud, is quick to emphasise. Some of you may remember Firoud as the Arabian left-half who diverted the ball past his own goalkeeper at Highbury in October, 1951; an unhappy error which may have deprived France of their first-ever win on English soil, two years before the formidable Hungarians. England, playing a very hand to mouth game, fell behind, but eventually managed to catch us and draw, 2-2.

Kader, now the excellent, weathered manager of Nimes, explains the club's poor start to the season largely on the grounds that both his wingers were put out of the game "by acts of calculated aggression." One of those wingers was the elegant Rumanian, Pircalab, a splendid outside-right who was his country's chief star when he left for France and who, alas, won't play for Nimes again.

Dropped points

Ironically, it was because of Pircalab that the talented and sympathetic Mircea Lucescu, Rumania's 1970 World Cup captain, took to the left wing when he was a natural right footer! Nimes wanted badly to sign him, and thought they had everything signed and sealed. Alas, they were to be disappointed. Thus it was, in Kader Firoud's view, that the whole pattern of Nimes' play changed.

Where in the past they had won everything at home and been weak away, now, without forwards capable of forcing the game, they dropped points at home but won surprisingly often away. They did, however, find a good new right winger in Mathieu; whose opportunism has won them important points; such as at Sochaux where he got the only goal of the game.

Firoud, however, believes he lacks confidence and temperament, that he is at his best when put on during the course of a game. Mathieu is finishing his studies in law, and Firoud still hopes that the magic transformation will take place, the confidence will come. In the meantime, Mathieu has done well for Nimes.

International review by Eric Batty

YUGOSLAVIA COULD WIN WORLD CUP

Yugoslavia 1 Spain 0

FIELDING a relatively inexperienced side and having their captain and super-star Dragan Dzajic reduced for most of the match to the role of spectator, Yugoslavia stepped very impressively into the final stages of the World Cup.

Great credit must go to Miljan Miljanic, until recently manager of Yugoslav champions Red Star, who now heads a technical committee but effectively has control in matters like team selection and being boss on match days.

He could have signed a fat contract with Benfica after Red Star put Liverpool out of the European Cup and is top of Real Madrid's wanted list since Miguel Munoz was persuaded to quit. But Miljanic is a patriot and a realist. He quit Red Star because some of his players were not taking the game seriously enough and underlining his feelings towards his *Crvena Zvezda* 'stars' only three of them found places in the new national team.

Miljanic's period of influence almost coincided with his decision to quit Crvena Zvezda, following shortly after the 0-0 draw in Zagreb at home to Spain. Everyone expected that Yugoslavia would win and qualify and as a result Vujadin Boskov, the selector-manager, was forced to give up.

Objective

In Frankfurt, Spain's initial objective was achieved within minutes. Only seconds after the kick off right back Sol thumped straight into Dzajic like a bulldozer knocking down a house, a few quick raps at his legs, the odd trip and it was over within five minutes. From then on Dzajic stood on the fringes of the game — fluttering his dazzling left foot over the ball now and again; slipping in the odd curling centre but never really playing.

Perhaps its unfair to be too critical remembering that it's more than a year since he played a club game and sustained a broken leg last Spring. But it is disappointing that such a great player should have no influence on such an important game — disgraceful too that an over-lenient referee should allow such things to happen.

Digressing for a moment, having seen FIFA's list of referees for the final stages can anyone recommend a good one? I'd be glad to hear from anyone, anywhere in the world who knows of a good referee.

Flashes of what the Yugoslavs could do were frequent. In five minutes a quickly taken free kick by Oblak was flicked on first-time with the outside of his left foot by Karasi. Oblak, getting back the return, was through but delayed his cross and all he got was a corner. Dzajic chipped in a cross from the left that needed only a touch from Karasi racing to the near post but he failed to make contact.

Enver Maric the Yugoslavia goalkeeper was then called on for a rare intervention. Juan Carlos in midfield for Spain hit a speculative high ball into the box which Katalinski headed away. Claramunt leapt at it to hammer a good first time shot that had Maric moving high to his left hand side, but he not only stopped the shot but held the ball.

Maric was to come into the game only twice more. Once he went out to a near post cross and got half caught. He was out too slow to win the ball; too far to go back and somewhat fortunately managed to punch the ball away under pressure. Earlier he had done superbly well to foil Claramunt.

Valdez, the Argentinian on Spain's left wing produced his major contribution to the game when he put Claramunt through on the left with a superb left foot chip that left the entire Yugoslav defence standing. All that is save Maric who was out some 20 yards from his line, coming from nowhere to go down at Claramunt's feet to win the ball.

Hallmarks

The Spanish game had all the hallmarks of typical English football. Lacking in skill, flair, individuality and combined ability they just kept plodding away . . . and hoping. Their best chance came from an *English* move when Juan Carlos hit a long ball up to the penalty spot and Garate won the fight for the ball to nod it down. In the ensuing scramble, Amancio was given a clear look at Maric's goal but he delayed too long and his shot was blocked.

Apart from the rare cross it was Yugoslavia all the way. With young reserves at right back and centre forward where Ivan Surjak got an impressive first full game after going on as a substitute in Athens, it was in midfield where they won the day. Jovan Acimovic was brilliant; working, challenging, holding the ball — no other player in the game today screens the ball with his body as well as he does — and alongside him were a much improved Stanislav Karasi and Branko Oblac. Joining them in midfield, and often going even further forward *a la Beckenbauer* was Vladislav Bogicevic, who had a fine game.

The game was won and lost in the 12th minute following a free kick on the right. Stopper Josip Katalinski went forward to beat everyone in the air and produced a header that goalkeepers hate — the ball, nodded down, that bounces. Iribar, blocked the ball but couldn't hold it and with everyone off balance, Katalinski was the first to recover. He swung at the loose ball with his right foot to hook the ball high into the underside of the net.

Good shots

The Yugoslavs deserved to win by a better goal, but perhaps this was too important an occasion to expect top quality. Karasi and Acimovic went close several times as did Surjak with efforts that could have been good goals but a scrambled one to nil was enough to give them the place they deserved.

As I have written before in this magazine, the Yugoslavs are probably the best hope (unless West Germany recover their 1972 form) that a team playing real football will win the World Cup . . . Yugoslavia and Poland.

With Krivokuca, Stepanovic and Bajevic back to strengthen the side and with re-vitalised Dzajic playing the way he did at his best they could go all the way. Unhappily, as Hungary showed in 1966 and Peru in 1970, it isn't always football that counts in the *Weltmeisterschaft*. But the Yugoslavs have a bit more at the back; a good goalkeeper and above all they seem to have married skill and craft with bite in the tackle and determination.

Yugoslavia v Poland in the final? It could be a classic.

FEBRUARY 13
WORLD CUP

Spain (0) 0
Yugoslavia (0) 1 (Katalinski)

Spain: Iribar; Sol, Jesus Martinez, Benito, Uria, Juan Carlos (Quini), Claramunt, Arsenti, Amancio (Marcial), Garate, Valdez.

Yugoslavia: Maric; Buljan, Bogicevic, Katalinski, Hadziabdic, Oblak, Karasi, Acimovic, Petkovic, Surjak, Dzajic.

EARLY PROBLEMS HAMPER PALACE

Malcolm Allison talks to Ken Goldman

Q. What was the first problem you encountered in taking over at Palace?

A. I found that I had almost twice the number of players at Palace that I had at Manchester City, so the problem was to look at them and watch how they played and trained in order to categorise and evaluate them properly. Thus I found it impossible to get a ready insight of the players immediately.

Do you believe that motivation of players is either by the stick or carrot method?

I, like most managers, believe that you have to motivate players by either being aggressive or encouraging towards them, depending on who they are and how they react. The effect you have is dependent on your own personality and there is no laid-down rule, of course, how a manager affects his players.

How do you deal with the pressures and problems of management?

It is important to face up to problems and to do whatever you have to when they arise. I therefore like to clear away those things which I call my "dirty jobs" first because that frees my mind to tackle other difficulties.

What training do you particularly emphasize?

I have predominantly returned to basic skill work in training here at Palace. I believe that present-day players need to work at controlling the ball under pressure and heading for power and accuracy. My coaching is intended to strike a balance in favour of competition and embodies opposition. I also strongly believe in weight-training.

What do you find the most frustrating thing in English football?

I believe it is passing back to the goalkeeper and if I could abolish it I would. I once saw a match in Africa where the players went the full 90 minutes without passing back, which they were able to achieve because they had superb skill, whereas we in England tend to give the ball away far too much and also take away the advantage too frequently from the attacking team.

What do you think are useful attributes for any manager?

One needs plenty of courage, a thick skin and an ability to ignore certain problems. You also need to be able to delegate people for certain specialised jobs, particularly that of the team captain, who should have a tremendous attitude in the dressing room and be able to make decisions on the field.

When can you get a good idea if a youngster has ability and might make a professional?

It is a hard question, but I think that one can usually see in a boy of between 9 and 11 years old if he has an aptitude for playing and by 17 or 18 if he is going to make it in top competition.

What do you feel is of paramount importance to you as a football manager?

I think that it is imperative to live with your players and to learn what affects their physical and mental condition. Therefore my principal aims as a manager are to take an interest in my players and to retain a dedication to coaching.

Egypt buries dead

EGYPT has buried its dead from a charity soccer match that turned into tragedy.

Wailing and sobbing relatives and football fans lined Cairo streets for the funerals of the 48 people impaled on spikes, mutilated and crushed when part of a packed stadium collapsed. Forty-seven people were injured.

As an investigation got under way into the nation's worst-ever sports disaster, the manager of the soccer club declared it could have been even worse.

If a brick wall and iron fence had not crumbled under massive pressure from the heaving crowd, the manager, Major-General Hussein Labib, said, hundreds would have suffocated.

As it was, he said, they burst to safety through a gap in the wrecked railings.

The tragedy came 15 minutes before Zamalek Sporting Club was due to play Dukla of Prague. It was one of a series of matches in aid of war veterans sponsored by Gihan Sadat, wife of President Sadat.

The dead were all in the "Third Class" section of the stadium. Fans had swarmed to the ground for only the second soccer game in Egypt since the October war.

Officials

Zamalek club officials complained today that thousands too many tickets were sold for the stadium which normally holds 30,000.

They said about 80,000 packed in. The crowd included thousands without tickets who climbed over fences.

Government and sporting officials decided to transfer future important matches to the 100,000 capacity Nasser Stadium.

Dukla's remaining two matches will be played there and part of the money they raise will go to the families of the victims, the Middle East News Agency reported.

All important matches will in future be broadcast and televised LIVE, it has been decided.

General Labib said bigger football disasters had taken place elsewhere in the world.

Records show the worst-ever sporting tragedy took place in Lima, Peru, in 1964, when more than 300 people died in a riot following a disallowed Peruvian goal against Argentina.

In 1968 in Buenos Aires 71 people were killed in a crush during a game between Riva Plata and Arch-Gival Buca Juniors.

Three years ago six fans were killed in a crush at Ibrox Stadium in Glasgow, Scotland.

WORLD SOCCER NEWSDESK...WORLD SOCCER NEWSDESK

Tshimen is top

TWO players, from the same family and the same club (Tout-Puissant Mazembe from Lubumbashi) have been nominated the top two players in Africa 1973.

They are Bwanga Tshimen, 24-years-old, and Kazadi Mwamba, 26. Both play for Zaire. The ballot which resulted in their being awarded the "Golden Ball" and "Silver Ball" respectively of the African edition of *France Football* was carried out among journalists from 21 countries.

The final classification was:

1. Bwanga Tshimen (Zaire); 2. Kazadi Mwamba (Zaire); 3. Laurent Pokou (Ivory Coast); 4. Kakoko Etepe (Zaire); 5. Faras (Morocco).

Laurent Pokou has now left the Ivory Coast to join the French club Rennes who already have Keita of Mali.

At a recent meeting in Frankfurt, the FIFA Executive Committee confirmed the setting up of a Technical Study group for the 1974 World Cup, after the useful technical information which had been gathered by such panels in England (1966) and Mexico (1970).

The group will work under the Chairman of FIFA Technical Committee, Harry H. Cavan (N. Ireland). The Director is Walter Winterbottom (England), the Secretary Rene Courte (Luxembourg). FIFA Public Relations and Press Officer, and the members: FIFA Coach Dettmar Cramer — Stefan Kovacs, coach of the French national team, and Jose Bonetti (Brazil).

January results:
(from Africa)

6.1.74 Mali (1) 1 Tunisia (0) 0
13.1.74 Mauritius (2) 4 Malawi (0) 1
17.1.74 Mauritius (1) 2 Malawi (0) 1
17.1.74 Pakistan (1) 1 Iran (1) 2
20.1.74 Mauritius (0) 2 Malawi (1) 2

FORTHCOMING MATCHES

Full Internationals

March

3 Morocco v. Algeria
13 East Germany v. Belgium
23 France v. Rumania
27 West Germany v. Scotland
27 East Germany v. Czechoslovakia

April

3 England v. Portugal
17 Brazil v. Rumania
17/20 West Germany v. Hungary
27 Czechoslovakia v. France

May

1 West Germany v. Sweden
1 Switzerland v. Belgium
11 Wales v. England
11 N. Ireland v. Scotland
15 England v. N. Ireland
15 Scotland v. Wales
18 Scotland v. England
18 Wales v. N. Ireland
19 France v. Argentina
22 England v. Argentina
29 East Germany v. England

June

1 Bulgaria v. England
5 Yugoslavia v. England

AFRICAN CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP

February 10

Zambia Army (2) 4 (Kunda, Yobe, Kapita)
Antalaha FC (1) 2 (Chama og. Theodore)

Patson Kunda opened the scoring for Zambia in the 14th minute and eleven minutes later Donwell Yobe put the Army side two up. But Antalaha of the Malagasy Republic fought back and Dick Chama put through his own net to make the interval score 2-1. Antalaha equalised soon after the break through Theodore but two goals from Obbie Kapita settled the issue for the Zambian side.

Simba FC (1) 3
Dinare (1) 1

Dinare of Lesotho opened the scoring against Simba of Tanzania in the 30th minute. Simba came back and equalised before half time. Abed Haidard put Simba ahead with six minutes left and a minute later Abafi Dilunga scored a third.

Olympique Real (Bangui) (3) 4
Uganda Army (Uganda) (0) 0

Freetown Port Authority 3
Jeane D'Arc (Dakar) 2
(preliminary round)

9th African Cup of Nations—

Match Programme

Preliminary Round

Group "A"

1.3.74 Cairo, Egypt v. Uganda
2.3.74 Mehallah, Zambia v. Ivory Coast
4.3.74 Cairo, Egypt v. Zambia
Mehallah, Uganda v. Ivory Coast
6.3.74 Cairo, Egypt v. Ivory Coast
Mehallah, Uganda v. Zambia

Group "B"

3.3.74 Alexandria, Congo v. Mauritius
Damanhour, Zaire v. Guinea
5.3.74 Alexandria, Congo v. Zaire
Damanhour, Mauritius v. Guinea
7.3.74 Alexandria, Congo v. Guinea
Damanhour, Mauritius v. Zaire

Semi-Finals

9.3.74 Cairo, First of Group A v. Second of Group B
Alexandria, First of Group B v. Second of Group A

3rd/4th place Match

11.3.74 Cairo

Final

12.3.74 Cairo.

The Matches of the Tournament will be played in the following Stadia:

	Capacity:
Nasser Stadium, Cairo	100,000
Mehallah Stadium	35,000
Alexandria Stadium	40,000
Damanhour Stadium	40,000
Menya Stadium	30,000

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO: Readers' Forum, World Soccer, 79 Temple Chambers, London, EC4Y OEX

Another league title

IT'S been a long time since I sent you a contribution, so I thought this is a most appropriate time.

I've been in Iran a little over two years, and this is the second time I've clinched the league title. You may recall that on a former visit here 69/70 I won the title with Paykan F.C. and a picture appeared in your magazine April or May 1970.

Pasepolis R.C. is in fact the same team, but now under a different sponsor, and Paykan F.C. has disbanded.

During 1970-71 I got caught up in the North American Soccer with the Washing Darts, which sold out lock, stock and barrel to Miami, so returned here. Winning this title here without defeat, together with an undefeated tour of the Middle East, and a very successful spell with foreign teams — Chelsea (1-1), Bournemouth (1-0), Hendon (3-0), Sao Paula Brazil (1-1), Spartak Czeoco (2-2) —we have had a remarkable year.

The National teams also had a marvellous year. The youth team won the Asian youth championship, and the seniors won the Asian World Cup Zone here, beating North Korea, Lebanon, Kuwait, but losing surprisingly 3-2 on aggregate to Australia. They also beat Chelsea (1-0), Stoke City (1-1), Sao Paulo (0-0).

Trust this short note on Iran football will give you some idea of the upswing in local football. Iran must be the strongest football country in Asia, and this coming September will stage the Asian Games. Sixteen countries will take part, and Iran will be going for the hat-trick of Asian Cup Championship wins. They have won the last two, represented Asia in Munich '72 and in the Mini World Cup Brazil '72.

ALAN ROGERS
Persepolis Sports Club
Tehran, Iran

Incensed by Batty

I ENJOY your magazine, as I have since 1961, for its coverage of the game world-wide. By and large, you have been impartial, and haven't sunk to petty condemnation of the game abroad, unlike some organisations I can think of.

Therefore I was incensed by Eric Batty's comments first, on his review of the 1974 international scene. He hardly conceals his delight that Italy were well beaten by Brazil in Mexico 1970. Fair enough, but later in the same edition he comes clean and tells us he actually hates Catenaccio. I find this an unfortunate choice of words.

I happen to like Italian football, and for me its cat and mouse style gives me more enjoyment than the majority of the players in this country.

If Mr. Batty was supposed to be reviewing tactics and football in general, then let him do so. I am not interested in his likes and dislikes, particularly of the Italian game.

This spoilt my enjoyment of an otherwise enjoyable edition of World Soccer.

F. S. CONSTANTINE
Ilford, Essex

Pleased by Batty

THANKS Mr. Batty for the lovely article on page 32 of the February edition of World Soccer.

How right you are in stating: "With lateral running in attack you spread the enemy defenders out, and create space between them."

One of the best illustrations of this point was seen during Poland's goal at Wembley. When Lato won the ball in the middle, you could notice this movement of Gadocha and Domarski making angled runs across the pitch very quickly, leaving gaps in the England defence, and

Persepolis—the champions of Iran under the guidance of English coach Alan Rogers.

READERS' FORUM...

Marian Ostafinski of Poland.

therefore giving Domarski a scoring chance.

Perhaps it would be advisable for Sir Alf to see a re-run of this, to eliminate bankruptcy of ideas in the English attack.

Having this opportunity I would like to thank you for your great monthly magazine.

GEORGE DITTRICH,
Leeds, 8

Book reviews please

IN the February issue of World Soccer you ask readers to give you any ideas, etc., which they may have for the magazine.

Well, as you ask them to be concise, here they are—(a) How about a "Book Review" page? and (b) I find it awkward to refer to the league tables at the back of the magazine while reading the news from that particular country. Is there any chance of putting the table in respect of the country you are detailing on the same page, where space permits?

Hope you don't think I am a natural "moaner", these are just small criticisms. The magazine overall is first-class.

C. WARD,
BFPO 40

Thank you for your suggestions. We are thinking of distributing the league tables as you propose. And a regular selection of book reviews is on the agenda.—Editor

How many games?

ON page 47 of the January 1974 edition of World Soccer, there is shown the Brazilian football league table, consisting of 40 teams. Could you please tell me for how many years there has been a Brazilian football league consisting of 40 teams, and do these teams play each other twice in a season, i.e. each team playing a total of 78 games per season. And finally could you please tell me, how long a season lasts.

JOHN DEARSLEY,
Newham, London

Value for money

WHAT I most expect from World Soccer is value for money, and as the best, but also the dearest football publication, it has standards to keep up.

You say you will be enlarging your classified results service. That is something long overdue. I personally think that all important games, competitions, and league tables should be included, and if small size print is used they don't need to take up too much space.

And if Eric Batty's "Post-war survey" series could be re-introduced to include South America, and a page included setting out the main events and matches to be played in the month ahead, I think World Soccer would be well worth 40p.

KEITH HARDING,
Edgware, Middx.

More from Africa

YOU wrote in the February, 1974, edition that you would like readers to send in a letter suggesting what they thought might brighten up World Soccer. Well, here are my two suggestions:

I would like to see the line-ups of all the World Cup qualifying matches printed in the book like they were in the April, May and June 1970 editions for the last World Cup.

I would also like to see a lot more write-ups from Africa and Asia and a little less of the reports of the game in England, which one can read in any newspaper.

BARRY SPOONER,
Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs

You will notice in this issue that our African and Asian content has already been increased. It is a trend we shall maintain. We are hoping to acquire a comprehensive list of World Cup line-ups and are waiting to hear from FIFA who supply the information.—Editor

COMMENT

by The Editor

MANY of the letters we received from English-based readers suggested that World Soccer should greatly reduce the numbers of features each month which relate to football in Britain. However, it should be recognised that almost 50 per cent of this magazine's readership resides not in England but abroad.

Therefore World Soccer has a duty to those subscribers to provide a service, albeit somewhat limited, on the English game.

Nevertheless we have already taken steps to increase our coverage from Asia and Africa in particular, and South America too.

Truthfulness after defeat

Norman Cutler reports from Spain

ADIOS World Cup! Spain failed for the second time in two months to qualify for the Finals at Munich . . . and went down dismally. They never showed an atom of their normal strength, skill and talents. They were out-played and demoralised by Yugoslavia's incessant attacks made with utmost confidence after nerves vanished with the first early, lucky goal.

Yugoslavia merited their victory and were superior in every position. Only the defence saved the honour of Spain. "It was no dishonour to lose to such an adversary," said Kubala. "We played badly," said the Spanish F.A. President.

This was Spanish reaction. No excuses, no tears, no inquests, no accusations, no resignations.

Even the usually destructive gentlemen of the Press behaved like gentlemen for once. No criticisms, just the truth and facts. They were honest for a change. They knew that Kubala had done his best and produced the best international squad for 50 years. Two defeats in 25 games is better than many of the World Cup last 16.

Contract

Kubala has a contract until the World Cup, and both Kubala and the Football Federation intend that it be fulfilled.

Iribar's goalkeeping error was only reported, not commented upon or headlined . . . and at Barajas Airport when the team returned home, 10,000 fans gave them a welcome that couldn't have been bettered had they returned with the World Cup.

Kubala appeared worried when he returned, not unnaturally. Four years intensive work for nought. But he never thought of resigning as the British Press (the Sun) forecast, nor have the Spanish F.A. hinted at any changes. The morning after, Kubala sat down and selected his team for the next international against West Germany. He dropped seven of the team that lost to Yugoslavia. Three "mid-field" players and all the "forwards" and replaced them with other members of the squad.

I saw the match on television from hospital, surrounded by excited nurses and my wife. As soon as the line-ups flashed on the screen, I turned to my wife and said "there's not a goal anywhere in that side."

I'm not making excuses or looking contrary to the rest of Spain. I'm not accusing Kubala, but this time he did pick the wrong permutation and left out the aggressive goal-scoring forwards, he didn't introduce his substitutes—Marcial and Quini, Spain's leading goalscorers—early enough.

"We lost to a better team, we deserved to lose, it's just as simple as that, just bare facts.

Magical

There was one spot of trouble when Kubala sent his list of players to F.I.F.A. before the game, it included seven Barcelona players. The form shown on paper by Barcelona recently justified those selections, but Kubala overlooked the fact that the magical form shown by Barcelona was *only seen* when Johan Cruyff was in the side. As Cruyff could not be selected it was obvious that the Barcelona players would have been alone, without their 'keeper and just couldn't have functioned.

The Federation's comments and Barcelona's protests forced the manager to think again and change his final selection.

Pirri was out with a so-called injury. He has missed the last six internationals with last-minute injuries, yet has always played for Real Madrid a few days afterwards. I'd never pick Pirri again, good as he is, if I was Kubala. This injury lark before big matches is getting too much of a coincidence.

Information

MILJAN MILJANIC, manager of Red Star Belgrade and Yugoslavia, heir apparent to Miguel Muñoz at Real Madrid, is not giving away any information about the future. On a television interview he admitted he had been approached by Real Madrid and evaded 25 other questions about when he would take over Madrid. He did say: "I shall be going to Munich with Yugoslavia," which rules him out until after next season's team building and initial training period.

We in Madrid don't want a manager then, we may already be in the Second Division. Now is the vital period so we can regain all those lost points and close the gap with Barcelona. Luis Molowney is doing particularly well. He's good enough — famous names are not all that important to Real Madrid, they have plenty.

Di Stefano? No, not a chance. He's not likely to break a four-year contract with Valencia as the highest paid manager in Spain. That means in the region of £35,000 a year, plus, for Real Madrid or any other Real. Besides who said Stef was good enough. He is 100 per cent propaganda value but is not doing so well in Valencia as a manager. In spite of once winning the League title, Valencia are placed below Real in the League with only 21 points and are the most restless and unhappiest club in the country.

Copybook

Puskas? He's out before he's in. His over-rated popularity is only press and public hysteria. As a manager he is a beginner. Don't throw Panathinaikos in my face, I know all about what has happened in Athens. Besides no man has blotted his copybook so much as Puskas in Spain and Greece. He would dearly love the job but hasn't an earthly unless there is a violent change of mind amongst the directors who resent the fuss Bernabeu makes of Puskas.

As far as the rest are concerned, it is just irresponsible talk. Most are jumping on the bandwagon for the publicity. There is Joseito, ex-Madrid, manager of Granada, Michels of Barcelona, a Russian candidate ("I wouldn't say no to Real," he says), Ruddi Gutendorf T.S.V. 1960, West German manager Max Merkel (not a hope), Herra II, a couple of Hungarians (unknown) and an Argentinian.

The chances of a staffman being promoted are nil. I'm a better bet! That's considered half the trouble with Madrid . . . players and manager have been retained too long.

The latest news is that Agustin Dominguez, Real's general secretary, talked with Miljanic in Frankfurt with a contract in his pocket that only needed the noughts and zeros filled in. But Miljanic doesn't need money, he turned down to a six-figure fee to manage Brazil before the Mexico World Cup.

Santiago Bernabeu says: "We've made our statement, there's nothing to say just now."

REMEMBER 1960?

REAL MADRID presents and takes part in a new pantomime "This is how is happened" produced and photographed by Spanish TV. It is a film of the historic Eintrach v. Real Madrid European Cup final of 1960, which Real won 7-3, said to be the greatest football match ever played. I'm not yet certain whether TVE are to advertise this programme as a serious, thrilling drama or as an Aldwych Farce.

It was all very serious when it began but eventually turned into a rollicking pantomine.

The crowd present sent the Curtain up with a fine rendering of "Roll out the Barrel" and that's just what happened to the Madrid side of 1960. Dominguez, Marquitas, Santamaria, Pachin, Canario, Del Sol, Di Stefano, Puskas and Gento wearing the familiar white strip, trotted out looking like eleven barrels. Di Stefano's head — now bald and shining like a baby's bottom. Puskas loked like a perfect advert for Watneys Red Barrel.

Most of the goals were easy until the third headed goal by Di Stefano, dozens of passes were sent across but neither Stef nor Pancho could reach them, it was an ideal cut for a song and one expected to see the two of them break into a Frank Sinatra and Gene Kelly dance routine and sing their latest song . . . "We can't do that any more".

It was all very funny, if that was the general idea. But pathetic. Like that Ford presentation last year when England's old timers came back. It was a pathetic and shameful scene.

In Spain it's all a little different. Each club has an Old Glories side which plays as many matches (for charity) as the League side, old players are able to grow old gracefully.

Santamaria was very much the wicked uncle. He always scored two goals which neither Stef nor Panco could reach. Any moment we thought Snowy Netzer would come from the stand as Snow White or the Fairy Princess Stefano was romping with Bernabeu off stage — who said they were bad friends? And Muñoz was back as manager for the day, a new man and happy without such a load of worry on his shoulders.

The classic remark from a spectator was "Madre mio, our present side could beat this lot. He evidently hadn't seen this lot 14 years ago as most of the players are now managers of a kind . . . it's revealing that they don't take the physical training sessions they give their players very seriously.

"We can't do that any more" would be a good title for this TVE Production.

But one thing, it was good to see Madrid laughing at themselves in spite of all present day worries.

Real sunk without trace

SPAIN'S World Cup defeat was soon forgotten four days later when the "Match of the Century" produced the most sensational of results. Real Madrid v. Barcelona at Estadio Bernabeu. Gunter Netzer on one side, Johann Cruyff on the other. It could hardly have been more dramatic on paper, but Barcelona, directed by Cruyff, sensationally beat the favourites by 5-0—all five goals out of the copybook. It was Real's biggest defeat at home for 43 years. Barcelona didn't play against Real, they played with them!

While Cruyff directed his side and hand-fed his colleagues like a fussy nurse, Netzer, Real's hope, was never in the game. He spread passes all over the field, but there was never anyone able to take advantage of his scheming. Mercanas, Munoz' last signing, had the ball in the net three times, but all were ruled offside. Real Madrid really must learn to play with Netzer. He has goals galore in his head if they would only try and play with him instead of leaving him to take the opportunities he makes himself. .

Cruyff could be next victim

THE destroyers are at it again. This time Johan Cruyff is the selected victim.

Pressmen of Holland, Spain and England have built him up to the miracle player class, the "greatest of them all". He was given exaggerated tags, twice awarded the *France Football* Footballer of the Year award, and set on a pedestal that no man can possibly live up to.

The footballer of the year award accounts for nothing, it is just propaganda for the French football paper. It has nothing like the importance some newspapers and writers try to place on it. The player is selected by journalists, most of them with an axe to grind, who select a personnal list of players most of whom they have never seen and the football world goes mad, urged on by the very journalists whose final list is invariably farcical.

Having turned Cruyff into a wonder player by a repetition of exaggerated articles and two awards, they are now beginning to give him the treatment, to tear him to pieces and destroy him. Just as they did Ramsey and England.

It's an old dodge of some journalists. They write articles that need answers and the following week provide the answer — two fees instead of one. Boosting, then destroying what they've built. It's an old con game.

In the case of Cruyff: he's a canny character, a super businessman who has turned the extravaganza to his own advantage. He has no interest in anything but his family and money. The image created is not very complimentary because the writers don't know Cruyff and have rarely ever seen him, except on the misleading medium of television. In fact he is quite different from that image — ask his Barcelona colleagues who adore him.

Now they have started their destruction raking up that eternal cry "is Cruyff as good as Di Stefano"? The comparison between Cruyff of 1974 and Di Stefano in the 1950s. Who said he was as good as Stef in the first place . . . the Press!

Cruyff states: "I've never said I'm as good as or better than Di Stefano. I'm merely his apprentice, one who tries to copy a master. Anyway, how would Di Stefano fare in the violent world of today's football? Remember it was the press themselves who tied all those labels on to me."

Even Di Stefano himself says: "Cruyff is a great player, one of the best ever. I'm glad he didn't play on my day."

As for the F.F. award. Cruyff has never been excited about the Best of the Year title. He shrugs his shoulders and says, "One day you're a superstar, the next a disaster. The press don't really know what they are writing one day from another."

LEAGUE TABLES

WEST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bayern Munich	**23**	**14**	**5**	**4**	**68**	**42**	**33**
Moenchengladb'h	23	13	4	6	63	43	30
Eintracht Frankf't	23	12	6	5	46	37	30
Fortuna Dusseld'f	23	12	5	6	47	34	29
1FC Cologne	23	11	6	6	46	36	28
VfB Stuttgart	23	10	4	9	48	41	24
Kickers Offenb'h	23	9	6	8	41	39	24
Hertha Berlin	22	7	9	6	38	37	23
Kaiserslautern	23	9	5	9	51	49	23
Hamburg	23	9	4	10	40	38	22
Schalke	23	9	4	10	47	53	22
Rot-Weiss Essen	22	7	6	9	37	44	20
Werder Bremen	23	6	7	10	28	39	19
VfL Bochum	23	6	6	11	29	40	18
Wuppertal	23	6	6	11	32	45	18
MSV Duisburg	23	6	5	12	27	41	17
Hannover	23	5	6	12	38	46	16
Fortuna Cologne	23	4	8	11	32	54	16

ENGLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds United	**29**	**19**	**10**	**0**	**51**	**16**	**48**
Liverpool	28	16	7	5	37	23	39
Derby County	29	11	10	8	35	28	32
Ipswich	28	13	6	9	47	42	32
Burnley	27	11	9	7	34	31	31
Everton	29	11	9	9	33	31	31
Leicester City	28	10	10	8	36	28	30
Q.P.R.	28	9	12	7	41	36	30
Newcastle	28	12	5	11	39	32	29
Sheffield United	29	10	9	10	37	35	29
Tottenham	29	10	9	10	33	38	29
Manchester City	28	10	8	10	28	27	28
Southampton	28	9	10	9	37	45	28
Wolves	30	9	9	12	35	41	27
Arsenal	30	9	9	12	32	38	27
Coventry	30	10	7	13	32	41	27
Stoke	28	7	12	9	35	30	26
Chelsea	28	9	7	12	41	39	25
West Ham	30	8	9	13	37	47	25
Birmingham	28	5	9	14	29	48	19
Manchester Utd	28	5	8	15	24	38	18
Norwich	28	4	10	14	22	41	18

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax	**23**	**16**	**6**	**1**	**69**	**18**	**38**
Feyenoord	23	16	5	2	67	24	37
Twente	23	15	7	1	42	13	37
PSV Eindhoven	23	14	6	3	68	24	34
Amsterdam	23	10	8	5	31	23	28
AZ 67	23	7	10	6	25	25	24
Sparta	23	9	6	8	28	30	24
Utrecht	23	11	2	10	33	37	24
Telstar	23	7	9	7	32	34	23
Go Ahead	23	9	5	9	29	39	23
MVV Maastricht	23	5	9	9	23	38	19
FC Den Haag	23	7	5	11	23	38	19
Haarlem	23	6	4	13	20	33	16
De Graafschap	23	4	8	11	26	53	16
Groningen	23	4	8	11	26	53	16
Roda JC	23	4	6	13	24	38	14
NAC Breda	23	4	4	15	30	55	12
NEC Nijmegen	23	3	5	15	20	36	11

SPAIN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barcelona	**22**	**14**	**5**	**3**	**51**	**15**	**33**
Atletico Madrid	22	11	4	7	34	19	26
Malaga	22	10	6	6	22	20	26
Zaragoza	22	10	5	7	33	29	25
Atletico Bilbao	22	10	5	7	23	20	25
Granada	22	9	6	7	20	22	24
Valencia	22	10	3	9	29	22	23
Real Sociedad	22	9	5	8	26	30	23
Real Madrid	22	7	8	7	27	24	22
Espanol	22	9	3	10	20	22	21
Gijon	22	10	1	11	34	39	21
Celta Vigo	22	8	4	10	32	33	20
Elche	22	7	5	10	14	20	19
Castellon	22	6	7	9	19	27	19
Oviedo	22	8	2	12	24	33	18
Murcia	22	5	7	10	20	30	17
Las Palmas	22	8	1	13	17	27	17
Santander	22	5	7	10	17	21	17

VITAL WORLD CUP GOAL

The goal that put Yugoslavia through to the World Cup finals instead of Spain . . . Katalinski (5) beats Spanish goalkeeper Iribar.

LEAGUE TABLES

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Olym. Pireus	**20**	**16**	**4**	**0**	**62**	**8**	**36**
Panathinaikos	20	14	3	3	43	13	31
Aris Salonika	20	14	3	3	27	12	31
PAOK Salonika	20	12	5	3	42	21	29
AEK Athens	20	11	3	6	39	21	25
Panionios	20	11	3	6	29	21	25
Panachaiki	20	9	5	6	23	18	23
Ethnikos	20	7	3	10	21	27	17
Iraklis	20	4	9	7	17	23	17
Larissa	20	6	5	9	17	24	17
Olym. Volos	20	6	4	10	17	27	16
Panseraikos	20	6	3	11	17	30	15
Fostir	20	5	6	9	15	31	16
Apollon Athens	20	4	6	10	18	41	14
Kavala	20	4	5	11	19	29	13
Apoel	20	5	2	13	19	33	12
Aigaleo	20	4	4	12	13	34	12
Apollon Salonika	20	3	5	12	10	35	11

EAST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carl Zeiss Jena	**17**	**12**	**2**	**3**	**37**	**15**	**26**
FC Magdeburg	17	10	4	3	30	19	24
Dynamo Dresden	17	9	5	3	36	26	23
Lok. Leipzig	17	8	5	4	36	22	21
Hansa Rostock	17	9	2	6	29	21	20
Vorwaerts Fr'furt	17	6	7	4	24	20	19
Sac'ring Zwickau	17	7	4	6	28	27	18
Karl-Marx-Stadt	17	6	5	6	26	27	17
Dynamo Berlin	17	7	2	8	32	30	16
Wismut Aue	17	5	6	6	22	25	16
Chemie Leipzig	17	5	6	6	22	25	16
Stahl Riesa	17	2	6	9	13	36	10
Rot-Weiss Erfurt	17	1	7	9	11	32	9
Energie Cottbus	17	1	7	9	11	32	9

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Anderlecht	**20**	**13**	**5**	**2**	**47**	**20**	**31**
Antwerp	20	10	6	4	30	17	26
FC Malines	20	9	7	4	25	18	25
RWD	20	8	9	3	30	17	25
FC Liege	20	8	6	6	35	28	22
Standard	20	7	7	6	23	23	21
Waregem	20	7	7	6	31	38	21
FC Bruges	20	7	5	8	37	28	19
CS Bruges	20	6	7	7	31	30	19
Berchem	20	6	7	7	23	30	19
Beveren	20	5	8	7	18	20	18
Diest	20	5	7	8	32	33	17
Lierse	20	4	9	7	24	31	17
Beerschot	20	5	5	10	25	35	15
St Thond	20	2	9	9	18	37	13
Beringen	20	3	6	11	14	38	12

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lazio	**18**	**12**	**3**	**3**	**25**	**9**	**27**
Napoli	18	10	4	4	21	14	24
Juventus	18	9	5	4	30	19	23
Fiorentina	18	7	8	3	19	12	22
AC Milan	18	9	4	5	26	20	22
Inter-Milan	18	6	7	5	23	19	19
Torino	18	5	9	4	14	13	19
Cagliari	18	5	9	4	16	17	19
Bologna	18	4	10	4	20	19	18
Foggia	18	6	6	6	12	17	18
Cesena	18	3	9	6	13	16	15
Roma	18	5	4	9	12	18	14
Verona	18	4	4	10	15	23	12
Genoa	18	2	8	8	10	20	12
Vicenza	18	2	8	8	10	20	12
*Sampdoria	18	3	6	9	15	20	9

*Three points deducted

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Pts
Nantes	**25**	**15**	**5**	**5**	**44**	**24**	**8**	**43**
St Etienne	26	14	7	5	47	33	7	42
Lyon	26	12	8	6	45	34	5	37
Angers	26	12	5	9	52	43	7	36
Nice	26	10	7	9	46	33	8	35
Reims	26	11	5	10	47	42	8	35
Lens	26	12	4	10	46	45	7	35
Sochaux	26	11	6	9	42	33	6	34
Nimes	25	10	10	5	30	23	3	33
Nancy	25	7	10	8	40	48	6	30
Metz	26	10	5	11	36	32	5	30
Troyes	26	8	8	10	37	41	6	30
Bastia	25	10	5	10	31	31	4	29
Paris	26	8	6	12	40	52	7	29
Marseille	26	8	7	11	40	44	4	27
Monaco	25	7	7	11	40	45	4	26
Strasbourg	26	5	10	11	38	53	4	24
Rennes	25	9	5	11	21	32	0	23
Bordeaux	26	5	8	13	33	43	4	22
Sedan	26	6	6	14	26	50	1	19

IRAN
(Final table)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Persepolis	**22**	**15**	**7**	**0**	**47**	**6**	**37**
Taj	22	14	7	1	44	15	35
Pas	22	13	7	2	32	7	33
Oqab	22	10	10	2	30	13	30
Malavan	22	10	4	8	27	23	24
Oil Industry	22	8	4	10	25	33	20
Railways	22	6	7	9	19	24	19
Bank Melli	22	5	6	11	15	31	16
Navard	22	4	8	10	19	40	16
Steel Mill	22	4	7	11	23	35	15
Barq	22	2	8	12	16	32	12
Machine Tools	22	1	5	16	11	48	7

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sporting	**20**	**15**	**2**	**3**	**66**	**13**	**32**
Porto	20	13	5	2	32	12	31
Benfica	20	14	3	3	31	12	31
Setubal	20	12	5	3	42	15	29
Belenenses	20	9	5	6	32	24	23
Guimaraes	20	8	7	5	26	19	23
Farense	20	6	8	6	25	22	20
CUF	20	7	6	7	26	25	20
Boavista	20	6	4	10	23	31	16
Olhanense	20	6	4	10	24	42	16
Barreirense	20	4	7	9	13	26	15
Academica	20	5	4	11	20	32	14
Beira-Mar	20	5	4	11	26	40	14
Oriental	20	6	1	13	20	57	13
Montijo	20	4	4	12	24	38	12
Leixoes	20	4	3	13	19	39	11

TURKEY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fenerbahce	**17**	**7**	**9**	**1**	**19**	**7**	**23**
Galatasaray	17	8	6	3	16	6	22
Besiktas	17	7	8	2	19	10	22
Holuspor	17	5	11	1	22	17	21
Eskisehirspor	17	7	5	5	20	15	19
Altay	17	8	3	6	17	13	19
Adanademirspor	17	5	7	5	12	11	17
Goztepe	17	6	5	6	18	17	17
Ankaragucu	17	7	3	7	18	22	17
Adanaspor	17	4	8	5	12	13	16
Bursaspor	17	4	7	6	10	16	15
Kayserispor	17	4	6	7	12	15	14
Mersin I'n Yurdu	17	4	5	8	8	13	13
Giresunspor	17	3	7	7	14	20	13
Vefa	17	3	6	8	8	17	12
Samsunspor	17	4	4	9	7	20	12

MORE NEXT MONTH

Iribar . . . the goalkeeper of Spain and Bilbao.

● Continued from page 18

Cullis was later to win honours for Wolves as a manager but he never permitted his players to play the way he did. Everything long — kick and rush — quick wingers in Johnny Hancocks and Jimmy Mullen and wing to wing passes and flying centres. God help anyone who gave the ball away trying to be clever.

This is the tragedy of the modern game — that the ability of the individual has been submerged, stifled by the ever increasing demand for results.

Ramsey to me sets the standard for as England team chief he is in a position to show the way. But I am positive he would never had let himself play for England. Not while he picked the team.

Before leaving Ramsey one final memory. Just a few weeks before the 3-6 splendour of Hungary another Wembley crowd saw a superb display from the Rest of Europe XI who met England to celebrate 90 years of organised football. Ladislav Kubala, Giampiero Boniperti, Gunnar Nordahl, Branko Zebec. A Hungarian, a Swede, an Italian and a Yugoslav — they couldn't even speak the same language. But out on the park they thought the same way, played the same way and the result was magic.

With little more than seconds to go England got a penalty at 4-3 down. Stan Mortenson had gone through the middle and been fouled. As so often with Morty, who was a real aeroplane, he went so fast that he never fell within ten yards of the spot where the infringement took place. I had serious doubts about it being *inside* but the ball was put on the spot. The man nominated to save England by making it 4-4 was Alf.

Penalties

Facing him was the tall Yugoslav Vladimir Beara who had made a big name in an earlier 2-2 draw for Yugoslavia against England at Highbury. The referee blew his whistle Ramsey started his run up — and he was a master at slotting penalties into the bottom corners. Beara knew it and moved to his right, diving like a cat with every sinew stretching. Alf came up to the ball and smashed it with all he had, the way Geoff Hurst did at his peak.

If Beara hadn't moved the ball would have hit him in the face and probably cost him two or three teeth. Did Ramsey panic and just blast it? Or did he figure that Beara knew his style and deliberately changed his usual policy?

From what I saw of Ramsey the player he knew what he was doing. He guessed that Beara would commit himself and put the ball precisely where he wanted it to go. Only Ramsey will ever know the truth, but he equalised and it was so out of character that I calculated it must have been intended.

This was Ramsey the player. Calm, skilful, slow but *cultured*. How far he was from the present generation of English backs can only be measured in light years. And what a tragedy for us all, and World football at large, that he doesn't have the courage to pick players who play the game as he did.

Blagojew Vidinic, the Yugoslavian manager of Zaire.

● Continued from page 25

"It's the people's religion. It's the national sport. The African can afford to play the game as little equipment is needed. He has the ability, the know-how, the make-up for it—he loves the game. If we had the facilities that other countries have from FIFA, Brazil would be the only country to compare with us. We would be playing in the World Cup, not Zaire."

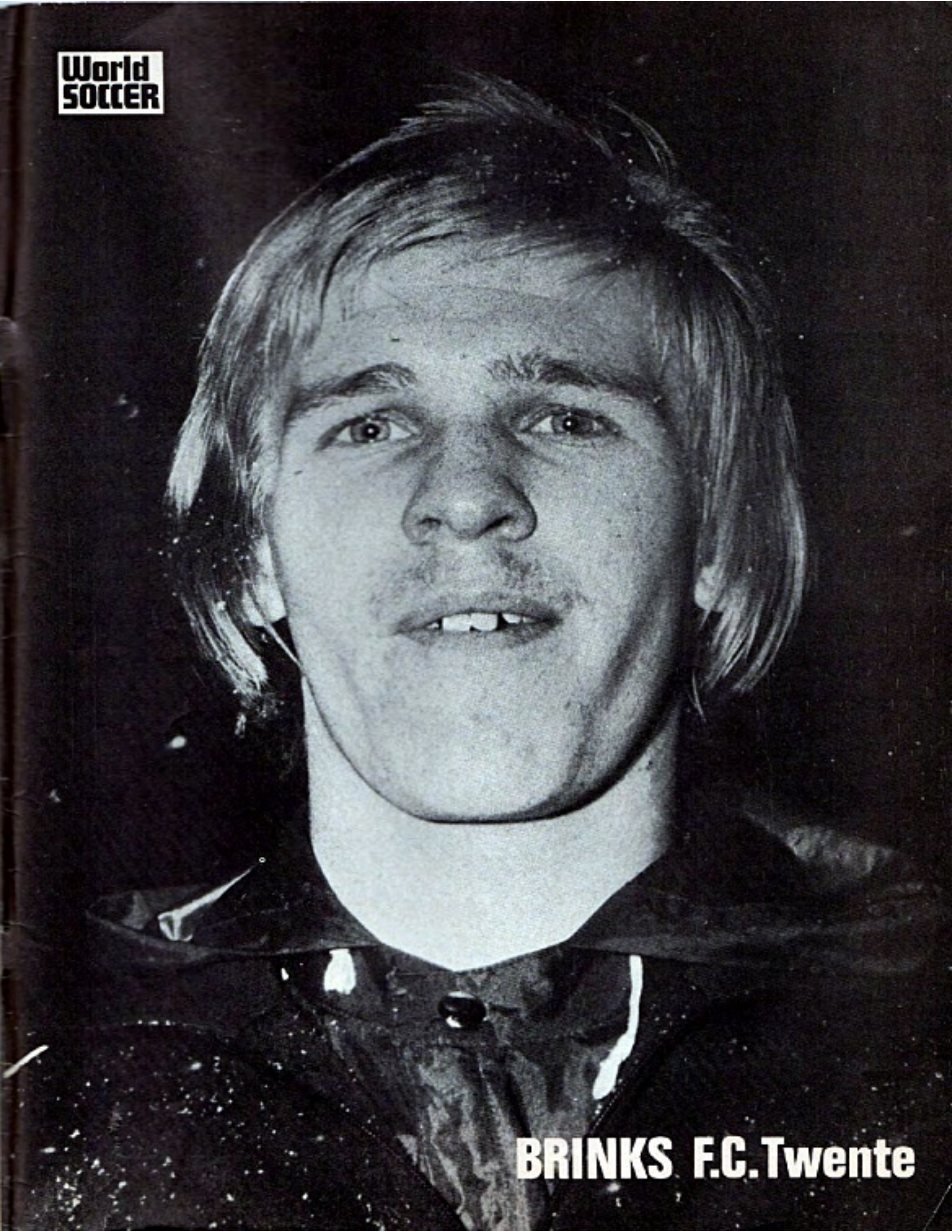
Who, then, compare with Santos, Corinthians and Vasco dt Gama? "Dynamos are an all African side that get the biggest support. Unlike many sides—mining sides, for example, they get no sponsorship. Then there's Kelly's —an all European side who are not having the easy time of it that they used to have before the African game developed so quickly. There's Rhodesia Breweries, Sables and Arcadia United, the coloured or Euro-African side. Clubs like Matabele and Highlanders get great support as they represent tribal divisions."

Despite the apparent success of the league, the NFA is concentrating a lot of its energy on youth development, despite the limited resources they have. They realise the importance of the source of supply for the future being well cared for.

"We have appointed coaches who concentrate entirely on the schools and youth clubs. They hold seminars for school teachers as well. Scouts watch schoolboy progress because the game is well organised at school level. What is lacking is professional coaching. I hope to appoint a couple of coaches while I am in Europe."

But despite all this, the African Confederation still do not seem to want to know about Rhodesia. "However, when they see my report I am sure they will understand. The people are in the majority. It's not a racial question—we go only on ability, not if you are blue, pink or khaki. I hope we will persuade our friends like Mr. Tessema of Ethiopia, Mr. Ordia of Nigeria and our Kenyan colleagues that what we are doing is right. You see, sport can penetrate where politics cannot."

World SOCCER



BRINKS F.C. Twente

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